

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2657.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1878.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

BRITISH MUSEUM.—The BRITISH MUSEUM will be CLOSER on the 1st and RE-OPENED on the 8th of OCTOBER. Visitors cannot be admitted from the 1st to the 7th of OCTOBER, inclusive. J. WINTER JONES, Principal Librarian. 26th September, 1878.

ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES.—Professor FRANKLAND, D.C.L., F.R.S., will commence a Course of Forty Lectures on Inorganic Chemistry on WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 2nd of October, at 10 o'clock, to be continued on each succeeding Friday, Monday, and Wednesday, at the same hour. Fee for the Course, 4*s*; Laboratory Practice for three months, 1*s*.

Professor HUXLEY, LL.D., F.R.S., will commence a Course of Eight Lectures on "Some Branches of Natural History" (including Palaeontology), to be continued on WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 2nd of October, at 10 o'clock, to be continued on every Week-day but Saturday at the same hour. Fee for the Course, 4*s*; for the Laboratory Practice, 6*p*.

Professor GOLDBECK, F.R.S., will commence a Course of about Sixty Lectures on "Physical Chemistry" on WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 2nd of OCTOBER, to be continued at the same time on every Week-day but Saturday. Fee for the Course, 4*s*; Laboratory Practice, 1*s*.

These Lectures will be delivered in the Science Schools, Exhibition-road, South Kensington.

TRENTHAM REEKS, Registrar.

ROYAL SCHOOL of MINES.—DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE AND ART.

During the Twenty-eighth Session, 1878-79, which will commence on the 2nd of OCTOBER, there will be given 130 LECTURES and PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS will be given:—

1. Chemistry. By E. Frankland, Ph.D. F.R.S.
2. Metallurgy. By John Percy, M.D. F.R.S.
3. Natural History. By H. Huxley, LL.D. F.R.S.
4. Mineralogy. By Washington W. Smyth, M.A. F.R.S.
5. Botany. By J. D. Hooker, F.R.S.
6. Geology. By John W. Judd, F.R.S.
7. Applied Mechanics. By T. M. Goodeve, M.A.
8. Physics. By Frederick Guthrie, Ph.D. F.R.S.
9. Mechanical Drawing. By Rev. J. H. Edgar, M.A.

The Lectures are for Students desirous of becoming Associates are 2*s* 6*d* sum on entrance, or two annual payments of 3*s*, exclusive of the Laboratories.

Tickets to a separate Course of Lectures are issued at 3*s* and 4*s* each. Officers in the Queen's Consuls, Acting Mining Agents and Managers may obtain Tickets at reduced prices.

For a Prospectus and information apply to the Registrar, Royal School of Mines, Jermyn-street, London, S.W.—TRENTHAM REEKS, Registrar.

SCIENCE and ART DEPARTMENT of the COMMITTEE of COUNCIL on EDUCATION. South Kensington.

NATIONAL ART-TRAINING SCHOOL.

FOURTY LECTURES on the HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT of OBSCURE ART, with special reference to Ethics and the Social Classes, will be given in the Lecture Theatre, South Kensington Museum, during the Two Sessions, 1878 and 1879, on Tuesday Evenings, at eight o'clock, commencing on Tuesday, the 8th of October, 1878.

The Public will be admitted on payment of 10*s*. for each Sessional Course of Twenty Lectures, or 1*s*. for the complete Annual Course of Forty Lectures, or 1*s*. each Lecture.

NATIONAL ART-TRAINING SCHOOL, South Kensington.

PUBLIC ART-CLASSES IN CONNEXION WITH THE TRAINING SCHOOL.

The NEXT SESSION will commence on the 1st of OCTOBER. Separate Classes, open to the Public on payment of Fees, are established for Students of both sexes, the Studies comprising Drawing, Painting, and Modelling, as applied to Ornament, the Figure, Landscapes, and Still-life.

General Admission, who are not already registered as Students of the School, must pass a Preliminary Examination in Freehand Drawing of the Second Grade.

Special Admission-Examinations will be held at the School at frequent intervals during the Session.

Application for admission to Fees, &c., for admission, should be made to the SECRETARY, Science and Art Department, or, on and after the 1st of October, to the REGISTRAR, at the School, Exhibition-road, South Kensington, S.W. By order of the

Lords of the Committee of Council on Education.

THE HOLBEIN SOCIETY. President—SIDNEY COLVIN, Esq. Stale Professor of Art, Cambridge.

CAXTON'S GOLD: N LEGEND.

A Fac-simile Report of a portion (about 70 pages, containing numerous Woodcuts of the copy in the Manchester Free Library, the Plates from the Dutch Edition of 1585, and an Introductio by Mr Alfred Aspland, Esq.

Price to subscribers, 1*s*; to non-subscribers, 1*s*. 6*d*. Only a few copies are on sale.

Note.—A Report of the Trustees of the British Museum, the Committee are pleased to announce that the next issue of the society will be a Fac-simile Reproduction of the Block Book Ars Moriendi, printed circa 1450, to be followed by the Reproduction of a unique work, the "Quadrifoglio" of Frezzi. The only known copy is in the British Museum.

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TO ART STUDENTS and OTHERS.—LADIES' COLLEGE LODGINGS, Bedford House, Tavistock square. Terms for Board and Lodging from 6*s* to 70 Guineas a year, or from 2*s* to 3*s*. a week, payable in advance. References given and required. For full particulars address the LADY MANAGER, Bedford House, Tavistock-square, W.C.

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PROFESSOR TENNANT'S LECTURES on MINERALOGY, applied to GEOLOGY and the ARTS, at King's College. Two Courses are given, one on WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAY mornings, from Nine to Ten, and the other on THURSDAY evenings, from Seven to Eight. Full admission on paying the College Fees. The Lectures begin on FRIDAY, October 4, and terminate at Easter. They are illustrated by a large Series of Specimens, chiefly from his Private Collection. Persons unable to attend public Lectures can have Private Instruction in Mineralogy and Geology of Prof. Tennant, at his Residence, 149, Strand, W.C.

LITERARY.—A GENTLEMAN of some Literary ability and a legible Writer would be glad to assist AUTHORS or others, or Revise, Transcribe, or Correct Proofs. Strict confidence may be relied on.—Apply to MANUSCRIPT, MESSRS. Deacon's, Leadenhall-street, London.

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MATHEMATICS.—GIRTON COLLEGE CERTIFIED STUDENT (Honours in Mathematical Tripos) desires SCHOOL and PRIVATE TEACHING in the above, in and near London. Three and a half Years' experience in preparing Pupils for Examinations.—Address Miss KILGOOLE, II, Weymouth-street, Portland-place, W.

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The object of this Course is generally, to point out the conditions of success in the management and discipline of a School; and, in particular, to investigate, as far as the time will allow, the methods of teaching the ordinary subjects included in the routine of secondary instruction.

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2. The School-Room.—Its furniture and surroundings. Books and appliances. Ventilation. Lighting. Registers of attendance and progress. School book-keeping. Libraries. Museums. Collections of objects of local and scientific interest.

3. Discipline.—Measures for securing it. Personal influence. The art of obtaining attention and obedience, and of keeping them. The moral habits to be fostered in school life. Rewards and punishments. Recreation.

4. The Memory.—How this faculty operates, and how it should be trained. When and what to learn by heart. Oral teaching. Lecturing. Collective teaching. The sympathy of numbers. Book Work. Home lessons.

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8. The English Language and Literature.—Parsing. Etymology. Analysis. Composition. Paragraphs. How to encourage the critical study of great works, and to awaken interest in them.

Writing. Counting, and Computation considered as Mechanical Arts.—the methods of securing quickness, accuracy, and finish in their performance.

10. Mathematics.—Its place in education. How to make Arithmetic a discipline in Logic. Illustrations of the mode of teaching Arithmetic and Mental Arithmetic.

11. Geography and History.—The true order of progression. What sort of knowledge of these subjects is of most worth. Methods (i.) of communicating such knowledge; (ii.) of fixing it; and (iii.) of making it attractive and intellectually helpful. Biography.

12. The Teaching of Natural History.—The value and scope of such lessons. The correlation of all the parts of a school course.

* * A DORECK SCHOLARSHIP, of the value of 2*s*, will be awarded to the Diploma Examination, at Christmas next, to the Candidate who, having attended two courses of the Training Class Lectures during the preceding twelve months, and having passed the full Examination for a College Diploma, stands first in the Examination in the subject of his choice.

The Fee for the Course is One Guinea.

The Lectures are on Thursday Evenings, at Seven p.m.

C. B. HODGSON, B.A., Secretary.

CHARDSTOCK COLLEGE, Dorset, RE-OPENS on THURSDAY, September 19th. There is also a good Preparatory Department.

MORNING PREPARATORY CLASS for the SONS of GENTLEMEN (exclusively), 18, Somerset-street, Portman-square. The AUTUMN TERM will commence OCTOBER 1st.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—LECTURES to LADIES.—The CLASSES will be RE-OPENED on MONDAY, October 14th, at 5, Observatory-avenue, Kensington, W. (close to the High-street Station and Vestry Hall). In the following Subjects:—Holy Scripture, Church History, Logic, Moral Philosophy, Aesthetics, English, Latin, Greek, and German. Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Astronomy, Physic, Chemistry, Physiognomy, Harmony, and Drawing.—For Prospectus and all information apply to the Secretary, Miss C. SCHMITZ, 28, Belgrave Park-gardens, N.W.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

FACULTIES of ARTS and LAWS and of SCIENCE. Introductory Lecture on WEDNESDAY, October 1st, at 3 p.m., by Professor HENRY MOREY, M.A., Vice-Chancellor of the University College, London, 1878-1879. The public are invited to attend. No tickets are required.

TAFOURD ELY, M.A., Secretary.

UNIVERSITY HALL, GORDON-SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.—STUDENTS of UNIVERSITY COLLEGE RESIDE in the HALL under Collegiate discipline.—Particulars as to Rent of Rooms, Scholarships, &c., may be obtained on application to the PRINCIPAL of the SECRETARY at the Hall.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, BRISTOL.—THE THIRD SESSION will begin on OCTOBER 1st, 1878. The College supplies for persons of either sex above the ordinary school age the means of study in the following subjects:—Mathematics, Natural Science, Literature; and particularly in those branches of Applied Science which are employed in the Arts and Manufactures. The CHEMICAL LABORATORY is open daily from Ten to Five. Arrangements have been made in connexion with the DEPARTMENT of ENGINEERING SURVEYING, by which Students may spend the six Summer Months in the field. Applications for admission should be made to the Principal, on application through the Secretary. Several Scholarships will be competed for early in October.—For Prospectus and further information apply to

EDWARD STOCK, M.R.C.S., Secretary.

UNIVERSITY of DURHAM COLLEGE of PHYSICAL SCIENCE, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

EIGHTH SESSION.

The Examination for Scholarships for Exhibitions will commence on MONDAY, the 7th of October. The Exhibitions, of the value of £10. each, will be awarded to Entering Students who show sufficient merit in the above Examinations. Candidates for these Scholarships must send in their Names to the SECRETARY on or before SATURDAY, the 29th of September.—Prospectus and Conditions to be had on application.

THEO. WOOD BUNNING, Secretary.

RYAL COLLEGE of SCIENCE for IRELAND, STEPHEN'S GREEN, DUBLIN.

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SESSION 1878-9.

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The Scholarships are £10. each, or £10. for all the Courses of each year, with the exception of Laboratory Practice.

Chemistry (Theoretical and Practical), Metallurgy, &c.—Professor Galloway, F.C.S. M.R.I.A.

Mathematics, Mechanics, and Mechanism—Professor Hennessy, F.R.S. Descriptive Geometry, Drawing, Engineering, and Surveying—Professor Pigott, C.E. M.R.I.A.

Engineering Physics (Theoretical and Practical)—Professor Barrett, F.R.S. F.C.S.

Mining and Mineralogy—Professor O'Reilly, C.E. M.R.I.A.

Botany—Professor M'Nab, M.D. F.L.S.

Zoology—Professor Lett Adams, M.B. F.R.S.

Geology—Professor T. E. Huxley, F.R.S.

Paleontology—Mr Baily, F.G.S.

The Chemical, Physical, and Drawing School are open daily for Practical Instruction.

Fee for Chemical Laboratory, £1 per Month, or £12 for Session.

Fee for Physical Laboratory, per Month, or £1 for Session. Fee for Drawing School, £12 for Session.

The Session Commences on MONDAY, October 7th.

Programmes may be obtained on application at the College, or by letter or post-card, addressed to the Secretary, Royal College of Science, Stephen's-green, Dublin.

FREDERICK J. SIDNEY, LL.D., Secretary.

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THE LONDON SCHOOL of HOMEOPATHY, 12, Great Ormond-street, Russell-square, W.C. President—The Right Hon. LORD ESBURY.

The WINTER SESSION will commence on WEDNESDAY, 2nd October, when the Introductory Lecture will be delivered by Dr. D. DYCE BROWN, at Five P.M. Physicians or Medical Students desiring to join the Classes are requested to communicate at once with Dr. BATES, Hon. Sec. No. 4 Granville-place, Portman-square.

F. ED. MAYCOCK, Sec.

LONDON SCHOOL of MEDICINE for WOMEN, 30, Henrietta-street, Brunswick-square, W.C.—The WINTER SESSION will commence on the 1st OCTOBER, 1878. The Course of Instruction includes all the Lessons required for the Medical Examinations. Clinical Instruction is given at the ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL. An ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP, value £10., will be awarded after a COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION in Arts, on the 30th of SEPTEMBER.—Apply to MRS. THORNE, H.C.L. Sec., at the School.

FOR CHILDREN of WEAK INTELLECT, belonging to the Upper and Middle Classes of Society, the EARL SWOGGARD ASYLUM, Red Hill, Surrey, offers special advantages, at rates varying from 50 to 100 Guineas a year. Strict confidence and privacy are observed. For particulars apply to

MR. WILLIAM NICHOLAS, Secretary.

28, King William-street, E.C.

RYAL COLLEGES of PHYSICIANS and SURGEONS of EDINBURGH.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS in GENERAL EDUCATION by the ROYAL COLLEGES of PHYSICIANS and SURGEONS of EDINBURGH, during the Session 1878-9, will be held on the following days, beginning each day at 12 o'clock:

MONDAY, October 14, and TUESDAY, October 15, 1878;

TUESDAY, April 15, and WEDNESDAY, April 16, 1879;

AND SATURDAY, July 13, and MONDAY, July 14, 1879.

Intending Students of Medicine are reminded that they are required to take up above Examination, or one of those recognized by the General Medical Council, as equivalent to it, before they can be registered as Medical Students.

Information as to the Subjects of Examination and Books prescribed will be obtained by application to the Officer of either College.

ALEXANDER PEDDIE, President Royal College of Physicians.

PATRICK HERON WATSON, President Royal College of Surgeons.

September, 1878.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, PADDINGTON, W.—OPEN SCHOLARSHIPS and EXHIBITIONS in NATURAL SCIENCE.—THE EXAMINATION for 1878 will be held on WEDNESDAY, October 1st, and following days. Candidates will be called to give their answers in the Drawing-room, Hyde Park, on the morning of Tuesday, October 1st, between the hours of 11 and 1, and to bring with them the necessary Certificates.—For further particulars apply to the REGISTRAR, at the Hospital, or to

A. B. SHEPHERD, M.D., Dean of the School.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL and COLLEGE.

The WINTER SESSION will begin on TUESDAY, October 1st. The Clinical Practice of the Hospital comprises a Service of 710 beds, including 50 for Convalescents at Highgate.

Students can reside within the Hospital Walls, subject to College regulations.

For all particulars concerning either the Hospital or College, application may be made, personally or by letter, to the Warden of the College, at his House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

A Handbook will be forwarded on application.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL and COLLEGE CLASSES.—THE UNIVERSITY of LONDON.—A Class for the January MATRICULATION EXAMINATION will begin early in October.

(1) Classical Fresh, &c.—M. Laing, M.A., Trin. Coll., Camb. (2) Mathematics, &c.—T. W. BROWNE, B.A., St. John's Coll., Camb. (3) Chemistry.—T. E. MITFORD, F.C.S.

Fee for the whole Course, £10. For (1) or (2), £1 5s.; (3), £1 2s. The Class is open to persons not attached to the Medical School as well as to Students.

PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC EXAMINATION.

A Class in all the subjects of this Examination (including practical work) is held from January to July.

Botany—Rev. G. HENSTON, M.A., Christ's Coll., Camb. Lecturer on Botany to the Hospital.

Zoology and Comparative Anatomy—Norman Moore, M.D., St. Catherine's Coll., Camb. Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy to the Hospital.

Chemistry—J. ARMSTRONG, Ph.D. F.R.S., Demonstrator of Chemistry to the Hospital.

Physics—C. R. SMITH, B.A., MAGDALEN COLL., CAMB., Demonstrator of Natural Philosophy to the Hospital.

Engineering Physics—Dr. MAGDALEN COLL., CAMB., Demonstrator of Engineering Physics to the Students of the Hospital, £1. 8s. to others, £1. 10s.

For particulars application may be made, personally or by letter, to the Warden of the College, at his House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The WINTER SESSION will OPEN on TUESDAY, October 1st, with an INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS, at Three P.M., by Dr. ARTHUR E. WEDDE.

The Hospital contains 300 Beds, and there are special Departments for Cancer, Diseases of the Eye, Women, and Syphilis; also Out-Patient Departments for Diseases of Children, the Throat and Ear, and Skin.

HOSPITAL STAFF and LECTURERS.

Consulting Physicians—Dr. A. P. STEWART, Dr. GOODFELLOW.

Physicians—Dr. HENRY THOMPSON, DR. GREENHOW, F.R.S., DR. CAILEY.

Obstetric Physician—Dr. HALL DAVIS.

Assistant Physicians—Dr. ROBERT KING, DR. COUPLAND, DR. DOUGLAS.

Surgeon—Dr. H. TURNER.

Consulting Dental Surgeon—Mr. T. M. THOMAS.

Consulting Dental Surgeon—Mr. T. M. THOMAS.

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LITERATURE

The Six Chief Lives from Johnson's 'Lives of the Poets,' with Macaulay's 'Life of Johnson.' Edited, with a Preface, by Matthew Arnold. (Macmillan & Co.)

A STRONG eddy in the great literary current seems to be carrying us back at present to the foremost man of letters in the middle of last century. "Every name," Dr. Johnson himself said, "which kindness or interest once raised too high, is in danger lest the next age should, by the vengeance of criticism, sink it in the same proportion." He has suffered this fate from the first two generations of the present century, and now would seem to have come an oscillation the other way, a period of reaction and protest. Mr. Matthew Arnold's volume makes the fourth or fifth that has been published this year concerning Johnson and Boswell, all marked by a respect for the "lexicographer's" powers and an interest in his character which would not have represented the general feeling about him fifty years ago. Another reactionary force has, no doubt, had an influence in swelling the literature of the subject, a dissatisfaction with Macaulay's estimate of Boswell as a man and a biographical artist. Hardly a year passes but some one is moved to write a pamphlet or an article in vindication of Boswell against Macaulay's ferocious blindness to his merits. But this eddy of opinion in favour of the biographer is of much more limited sweep and spasmodic character than the eddy which has now set in in favour of the great man himself. As usually happens in such movements, the reaction is shown not so much in the points selected for praise or blame, as in the fact that the praise preponderates over the blame. When we compare Jeffrey's criticism of Wordsworth with Coleridge's, the amount of substantial agreement between them is surprising, only what occupies the foreground of the one criticism forms the background of the other. In like manner the critics of our own time are, in the main, at one with the critics of the last two generations about Johnson's merits and defects; but in the one case the merits are enlarged upon while the defects are hinted at and excused, and precisely the opposite process is followed in the other.

Mr. Arnold is as sensible as Hazlitt or Coleridge could have been to Johnson's purblindness and blundering arrogance as a critic; but that does not prevent him from seeing that

he had a great work to assist in which could not have been accomplished by men of delicate poetical sensibility, and that he performed his share of this work with a power that entitles him to our respect and gratitude:—

"Do not let us, therefore, hastily despise Johnson and his century for their defective poetry and criticism of poetry. True, Johnson is capable of saying: 'Surely no man could have fancied that he read Lycidas with pleasure had he not known the author!' True, he is capable of maintaining that the description of the temple in Congreve's *Mourning Bride* was the finest poetical passage he had ever read—he recollects none in Shakespeare equal to it." But we are to conceive of Johnson and of his century as having a special task committed to them, the establishment of English prose; and as capable of being warped and narrowed in their judgments of poetry by this exclusive task. Such is the common course and law of progress; one thing is done at a time, and other things are sacrificed to it. We must be thankful for the thing done, if it is valuable, and we must put up with the temporary sacrifice of other things to this one. The other things will have their turn sooner or later. Above all, a nation with profound poetical instincts, like the English nation, may be trusted to work itself right again in poetry after periods of mistaken poetical practice. Even in the midst of an age of such practice, and with his style frequently showing the bad influence of it, Gray was saved, we may say, and remains a poet whose work has high and pure worth, simply by his knowing the Greeks thoroughly, more thoroughly than any English poet had known them since Milton. Milton was a survivor from the great age of poetry; Dryden, Addison, Pope, and Swift were mighty workers for the age of prose. Gray, a poet in the midst of the age of prose, a poet, moreover, of by no means the highest force and of scanty productiveness, nevertheless claims a place among the six chief personages of Johnson's Lives, because it was impossible for an English poet, even in that age, who knew the great Greek masters intimately, not to respond to their good influence, and to be rescued from the false poetical practice of his contemporaries. Of such avail to a nation are deep poetical instincts even in an age of prose. How much more may they be trusted to assert themselves after the age of prose has ended, and to remedy any poetical mischief done by it! And meanwhile the work of the hour, the necessary and appointed work, has been done, and we have got our prose."

It is as a writer of prose that Mr. Arnold puts in a claim for Johnson and for his century. The Elizabethan age with all its poetical splendour left us without a prose style. In prose we want the qualities of "regularity, uniformity, precision, balance." These qualities are not to be found except in isolated cases in English literature before the Restoration. For the purposes of modern life, the prose of such masters of style as Milton and Taylor is "cumbersome, unavailable, impossible." It was left for the leaders of the age which succeeded theirs to create a serviceable prose style. Mr. Arnold somewhat exaggerates the influence that Charles the Second exercised upon the new movement, and does not give sufficient consideration to the part played by the drama in encouraging a direct, simple, and uninvolved habit of expression. But, whatever importance may be assigned to the causes that operated below the surface, there is no doubt that modern English prose had its first conspicuous exemplar in Dryden. As if the establishment of prose had been the special "mission" of the century which followed Dryden's appearance in literature, our poetry during that period was singularly barren, and seemed to

devote itself to the cultivation of qualities which belonged more especially to prose:—

"Our literature required a prose which conformed to the true law of prose; and that it might acquire this the more surely, it compelled poetry, as in France, to conform itself to the law of prose likewise. The classic verse of French poetry was the Alexandrine, a measure favourable to the qualities of regularity, uniformity, precision, balance. Gradually a measure favourable to those very same qualities,—the ten-syllable couplet,—established itself as the classic verse of England, until in the eighteenth century it had become the ruling form of our poetry. Poetry, or rather the use of verse, entered in a remarkable degree, during that century, into the whole of the daily life of the civilized classes; and the poetry of the century was a perpetual school of the qualities requisite for a good prose, the qualities of regularity, uniformity, precision, balance. This may have been of no great service to English poetry, although to say that it has been of no service at all, to say that the eighteenth century has in no respect changed the conditions for English poetical style, or that it has changed them for the worse, would be untrue. But it was undeniably of signal service to that which was the great want and work of the hour, English prose."

Johnson, coming at the end of the century inaugurated by Dryden, was thoroughly interpenetrated with its spirit, and may be said in a measure to have summed up its results. He wrote the lives of its poets, and criticized their productions from their own point of view, bringing to bear upon them the same principles and instincts which had governed their practice. Hence Johnson's 'Lives of the Poets' have a remarkable unity, of which the author was altogether unconscious. The work is at once a history of the men who were mainly instrumental in creating a style for English prose, a complete body of their principles, and a masterly illustration both of their spirit and their manner.

Mr. Arnold has rendered a valuable service in giving emphatic expression to the historical importance of Johnson's Lives, and has added, if possible, to his reputation as a profound and clear-sighted critic by thus separating and distinguishing the true work of the eighteenth century. But whether a selection of six of the principal Lives without note or comment is fitted to be an introductory school-book of literature is another question. Mr. Arnold complains in his Preface that the modern schoolmaster makes the mistake of trying to teach too much, and urges in favour of this selection as a school-book that at least it contains nothing that the pupil in after years would find it advantageous to forget. Further, the lives of Milton, Dryden, Swift, Addison, Pope, and Gray, as written by Johnson, furnish an admirable *point de repère*, a sort of natural centre in English literature, from which teacher and scholar may proceed in any direction with the satisfactory feeling that they may return to it for a fresh start when they find themselves in danger of bewilderment. Used in this way, Mr. Arnold's selection would be an excellent basis of operations, and may be commended to teachers as such whether or not they accept his views as to the extent of the discipline which they should attempt to found upon it. For his own part, Mr. Arnold, who is inclined to repeat, in connexion with much school learning, the saying, "Teach me rather to forget!" does not wish to see too ambitious a use made of his *point de repère*. He would not have the teacher

worry himself or his pupils by trying to correct Johnson's errors either of fact or of judgment. For the teacher, indeed, Mr. Arnold may be said to prescribe a "masterly inactivity." His advice to those about to teach English is practically "Don't." Let the teacher only stand aside and allow the pupil to learn for himself. Besides reading the Lives here selected, "the student would find great benefit from reading in connexion with each biography something of the author with whom it deals." "From Johnson's biographies the student will get a sense of what the real men were, and, with this sense fresh in his mind, he will find the occasion propitious for acquiring also, in the way pointed out, a sense of the power of their works."

If Mr. Arnold really means this volume to be used as a school-book, and does not rather imply that all attempts at literary education are a mistake, and that the utmost that the schoolmaster can effectually do for the culture of his pupils is to teach them reading and writing, and then set them adrift to be acted on by great public teachers as chance and inclination direct, there is something wanting in the discipline which he recommends. It is not a discipline which any schoolmaster could enforce; it is a discipline which could only be chosen by a student of his own impulse. The function of the schoolmaster is to teach things which the mass of his pupils would otherwise not be likely to learn. It is a waste of educational force for him to occupy his time in superintending studies which his pupils are likely to pursue of their own motive, and can pursue effectually only in that way. There is a sentence in Johnson's 'Life of Milton' which bears upon this point. "Every man," he says, "that has ever undertaken to instruct others can tell what slow advances he has been able to make, and how much patience it requires to recall vagrant inattention, to stimulate sluggish indifference, and to rectify absurd misapprehension." If a teacher confined himself to giving out so much a day of Johnson's Lives, or so much of the original authors, to be read or committed to memory, vagrant inattention, sluggish indifference, and absurd misapprehension would seriously diminish the value of his lessons. Only the intelligent and active-minded few would profit. And it would be a work of supererogation, for these are precisely the pupils that may be safely left to acquire this kind of instruction for themselves without the help of a schoolmaster. Over the minds of the others, the lessons of Johnson's Lives would glide like water over smooth marble, unless they were roused from their apathy by some such stimulus as Mr. Arnold seems to deprecate in the following passage:—

"Do not let us insist on also reviewing in detail and supplementing Johnson's work for them, on telling them what they ought really and definitely to think about the six authors and about the exact place of each in English literature. Perhaps our pupils are not ripe for it; perhaps, too, we have not Johnson's interest and Johnson's force; we are not the power in letters for our century which he was for his. We may be pedantic, obscure, dull,—everything that bores, rather than everything that attracts; and so Johnson and his Lives will repel, and will not be received, because we insist on being received along with them."

Mr. Arnold calls his discipline "unambitious." We should be inclined rather to say

that it aims too high for the ordinary schoolboy. It is adapted rather for those whose interest in literature has been already awakened than for those whose interest has to be awakened. It might be the best discipline for some boys, but we doubt whether it would have any efficacy with the mass of "young barbarians" who regard intellectual labour as an evil to be avoided as much as possible. Even, however, if teachers do not adopt Mr. Arnold's educational proposals, they should be grateful to him for directing their attention to Johnson's Lives as a basis for instruction in English literature. It is always a good thing when school-books are of a nature to assist the schoolmaster in forming the conduct of his pupils. There is abundance of prejudice in Johnson's accounts of his poets, and if Mr. Arnold had thought fit to annotate the Lives, he would have found many statements needing rectification besides the misconception of the person aimed at as "Little Dicky," by Addison. But the severe measure which Johnson always deals out to affectation, coat-turning, and dishonesty of all kinds, without any respect for the literary greatness of persons, is a most wholesome lesson for youth. Apart from the importance of Johnson's Lives as a *point de repère* in English literature, their moral dignity and robust manliness give them a peculiar value for use in the schoolroom.

THE SUPPLEMENT TO BRUNET.

Manuel du Libraire et de l'Amateur de Livres. Supplément, contenant 1^e un Complément du Dictionnaire Bibliographique de M. J. Ch. Brunet ; 2^e La Table raisonnée des Articles, au Nombre d'environ 10,000, décrits au présent Supplément. Par MM. P. Deschamps et G. Brunet. Tome Premier, A—M. (Paris, Firmin-Didot et Cie.)

The fifth and last edition of the 'Manuel du Libraire' of the late M. J. C. Brunet, published in 1860-65, was a monument of bibliographical labour and research such as the world had never before seen—a work of inestimable value to all librarians, booksellers, book-buyers, and bibliophiles generally. We well recollect how, as each successive volume of it appeared, it was hailed with delight by those who sell and buy books. Besides the descriptions which it contained of numerous precious volumes, for the most part accurately given, there was a flavour of romance in the notices it gave of the prices paid at successive book auctions for this or that particular rarity. It was accompanied besides by a classified index of subjects, perhaps the best thing of the kind ever published; and, finally, it was handsomely printed and "got up," so that it was a pleasant book to look upon and handle. It is true that, while professing to be a general bibliography of rare books, its notices of English and German works—indeed, of all books in modern languages, except those of the south of Europe—were few and scanty. Where, however, in things bibliographical shall a bibliographer look for perfection? In the departments of "Incunabula," classical literature, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese authors, Brunet has proved himself to be an invaluable guide, and as such he has been accepted not only in his own country, but in this.

Still, however excellent was M. Brunet's work, it has been long felt that a supplement to it was needed. Indeed, Brunet himself was not contented with his work, but during its progress had made notes of its imperfections and omissions, with a view either to a new edition or a supplement. He died in November, 1867, at the age of eighty-three, and these notes have unaccountably disappeared, much to the chagrin of the present editor, M. Deschamps, who, as early as 1870, was called upon by the eminent publisher and collector, the late M. A. Firmin-Didot, to undertake the publication of a supplement. M. Deschamps cordially undertook the task, and having been largely assisted by M. Gustave Brunet, the name of the latter now appears with his on the title-page as associate editor.

This Supplement to Brunet has been compiled upon exactly the same model as the original work, and is issued in the same form. Numerous works are registered which M. Brunet passed unnoticed, as not having been cared for in his time, and the descriptions of many that were chronicled by him have been revised, and quotations given of their increased prices at successive auctions. After the losses sustained by France during the German invasion, it was thought that the prices of rare books would go down in the market; but M. Deschamps shows that this has not been the case. The early editions of the French classics, for instance, have increased considerably in price. Single plays of Molière and Corneille have fetched larger prices than the Shakespeare quartos, which have not realized more than 40*l.* or 50*l.* a piece, with the exception, of course, of the 'Hamlet' of 1603, only two copies of which are known, both imperfect. Of these, one, in the library of the Duke of Devonshire, wants the last leaf; and the other, now in the British Museum, was purchased by Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps for the sum of 120*l.*, although wanting the title-page. A complete copy, according to M. Deschamps, would, if now discovered, realize from 500 to 600 guineas. It is not unreasonable to suppose that this would be the case, when we find the works of Molière in recent sales quoted in the manual before us at the prices of 5,700 francs, 6,000 francs, and 7,600 francs respectively—figures which would have considerably astonished the venerable M. Brunet. The same would have been the case with the celebrated 'Contes' of La Fontaine—the Farmer's General edition of 1762, which Brunet himself bought in 1837 for 625 francs, and which, after having been disposed of for 7,200 francs at the sale of his library in 1868, fetched 13,000 francs at the Benzon sale, in 1875! Where will bibliomania cease? It has been predicted over and over again that it must come to an end; but, considering how many millionaires there are in the world, and the vast competition among the various public libraries both in Europe, America, and our own colonies, we do not see a limit to it. Happily the British Museum is so well stocked with treasures of all kinds, accumulated from time to time by gifts, bequests, and purchases judiciously made, that it has no necessity to enter into the ruinous competition indicated by the records of sales before us.

The sales to which M. Deschamps principally refers in his quotations of prices are those of M. Yéméniz in 1867, of M. Brunet

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in 1868, of Baron Jérôme Pichon in 1869, and of M. Potier in 1870. Many of the rarities disposed of at these sales passed into the choice library of M. A. Firmin-Didot, and were sold at considerably higher prices at the sale of his collection during the present year, as we took occasion to notice at the time.

For assistance in his bibliographical descriptions the compiler acknowledges particular obligations to the following well-known bibliophiles, viz., M. L. Potier, M. Paul Lacroix, Baron James de Rothschild, Baron Jérôme Pichon, but, above all, to the late much loved and lamented Ambroise Firmin-Didot. He also speaks with gratitude of the aid afforded him by the admirable catalogues of dealers like MM. Auguste Fontaine, Maisonneuve, Morgand and Fatout, Claudin, Labitte, &c. Such catalogues he looks upon as sound contributions to bibliography, and has gladly availed himself of their contents, "sans scruple, mais non sans profit."

As excellent specimens of bibliographical description in the volume before us, we would instance the articles under the headings "Cornelie," "La Fontaine," "Marot," "Molière," "Montaigne," "Dentelles," "Heures," &c.

In the single entry given under the heading "Caxton," a notice, namely, of a unique tract printed by Caxton in 1483, "Sex perelegantissimæ Epistolæ, per Petrum Carmelianum emendatae," our author is not quite so successful. He describes the work well enough, but adds an unfortunate note, in which he states that Carmelianus was employed by Caxton as a corrector of the press, and that John de Giglis, Bishop of Worcester, did not disdain to act in a similar capacity in Caxton's printing office. Perhaps we had better give the precise words in the original French:—

"Pierre Carmelianus, 'Poète Lauréat,' qui mourut en 1527, fut employé par Caxton comme correcteur : on sait que l'Évêque de Worcester, John de Giglis, n'avait pas dédaigné d'exercer ces modestes fonctions dans la prototypographie anglaise."

This is altogether a misrepresentation; the fact being that Carmelianus employed Caxton to print these epistles for him, three of which were written by Pope Sixtus IV., and that John de Giglis also employed Caxton to print Indulgences for him.

The tract in question was discovered by Dr. Körnecken in the year 1874, and was described in the *Athenæum* for February 27th, 1875. A full account of it is given by Mr. Blades in his one-volume edition of the life of Caxton published last year.

The Famine Campaign in India, 1876–1878.
By William Digby. 2 vols. (Longmans & Co.)

ALTHOUGH the drought which, for nearly two years past, has caused severe famine over the greater part of Southern India—including many of the fairest districts of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies and the Province of Mysore—has now been succeeded by abundant rains, and the relief camps are closing for want of paupers, the calamity has been far too great and widely extended for its interest to have passed away, and a history of the circumstances which marked its course, and of the measures taken for the relief of its victims, must necessarily prove attractive to many, especially to those who have aided,

either by their services or their contributions, in mitigating its horrors.

Owing to his having access to official documents and other materials not open to the public, Mr. William Digby, the Honorary Secretary to the Famine Relief Fund in India, enjoyed many facilities for the preparation of such narrative; and the very least that might have been expected of him was that he should have presented his abstract of them in a clear, simple, and effective form. In this he has failed. Four thick volumes of printed Parliamentary papers relating to this famine have already been published, and they contain all the really useful information given in Mr. Digby's two volumes, while they possess the advantage of not being interspersed with the many altogether unedifying tales of suffering and death that disfigure the pages of Mr. Digby's tiresome, confused, and ponderous work. What is really required, not only for the general reader, but the historical student and statesman, is a concise systematic history of the famine, its causes and effects; of the means adopted by private and public charity and by the Government to alleviate the distress and devastation caused by it; and an impartial estimate of the efficacy of these measures of relief, together with a scientific exposition of those which should be adopted for the prevention of similar calamities in the future.

Within the past fifty years the Indian Government has been more or less suddenly called upon to cope with several severe famines, arising from droughts, and a study of the experience gained in dealing with these earlier famines is necessary, in order fully to comprehend the policy adopted in the case of the famine now nearly overpast.

There was a time when the manufactures of India held a not unimportant place among the industries of the country, and whole castes devoted their labours to various kinds of manufacturing trades, which were a source of great national wealth. But during the last two generations this happy condition of things has been gradually passing away. The fact has been clearly brought to public notice in England in the official 'Handbook to the Indian Court' of the present Universal Exhibition in Paris, and in it also the causes which have led to the decay and even disappearance of several once important Indian manufactures are set forth. Owing to the decline of these, the country has been left more and more to depend upon its agricultural produce; until now more than one half of the population of India is entirely occupied in tilling the soil. Hence it will be readily understood how pressing all questions connected with the land have become in India.

Taking India as a whole, it may safely be asserted that there is always food enough in the country to feed its population, and famine has never been known to afflict more than a portion of the country at one and the same time. It has been often truly asserted that famine in India does not, as a rule, mean want of food, so much as the want of means on the part of the people to carry and purchase it. Neither do famines really occur without due warning, and with the experience of their approach we have now gained, they may be forecast at least with as much certainty as the weather. The primary cause hitherto recognized is failure of the periodical

rains. But the loss of one season's crop is not sufficient to produce such a disturbance of the food supply as to lead to famine, which has almost invariably followed upon a succession of two or more seasons of scanty rain, culminating in one of exceptional drought. One of the most remarkable circumstances connected with these dreadful visitations is the rapidity with which a district recovers its prosperity upon the return of the usual overflowing rains. The people get to work again at once upon the land; but, unfortunately, with the return of the means of occupation the lessons of the past are forgotten by the natives altogether. An opinion is gaining ground that the produce of the land in India is not so great as it used to be, and that owing to the almost total absence of the use of manure, the soil is gradually becoming exhausted of its plant food. Also, with the increase of population the areas under cultivation are being proportionally extended, and the poorer soils, which formerly lay waste, are now brought under the plough. Although these waste soils cannot be expected to produce such good crops as the better arable lands, it has been justly remarked that under proper cultivation they may be made to produce more luxuriant crops than the highly prized lands as cultivated by the more ignorant classes of Indian agriculturists. A similar exhaustion of the soil to that now complained of with regard to India was observed in the *vicinia Romana* during the decline of the Roman empire, and has also been held by some to have been in a great measure the cause of the Irish famine of 1846–47. The question of better cultivation in India, and its probable effects in times of drought, was exhaustively considered in a most interesting paper read before the Society of Arts in May last by Mr. Frederick Danvers, of the India Office. In this able paper, to which was at once accorded the Society's medal, Mr. Danvers shows what has been effected in different parts of India by improved cultivation, and therefore what might be reasonably expected to result by its extension throughout the country. Some persons, ill acquainted with the real facts of the case, have declared that over-assessment is to a great degree responsible for the poverty of the cultivating classes in India. This assertion can surely not be maintained when it is clearly proved that the proportion the land assessment bears to the net produce of the soil is double what it would be if only the land were fairly cultivated. There can be little doubt indeed that the indebtedness of the ryots generally throughout India is in no small degree due to the excellent security they can give the money-lenders in consequence of the profitable tenure by which they hold their lands. It has even been argued, not without some show of reason, that an increase in the assessment would, by lessening the only available security for loans, go far towards checking the rapacity of the *sowkars*, and their eagerness to advance funds to the ryots. These are points which require to be still further illustrated and discussed before any definite opinion can be pronounced.

Any one who has been in India will have noticed the want of trees, but few probably will have recognized to how great an extent their absence affects the climate and the pro-

ductiveness of the soil. The disappearance of trees, particularly upon the high lands and upper watersheds of the rivers, is one of the chief causes of the severity of Indian droughts. It is now many years since a Forest Department was formed in India, but in a great part of Bombay, and in Madras in particular, the forests, the presence of which is absolutely necessary for what is called in France the "régime des eaux," may be said to have been hitherto neglected. Without proper forest conservation, such works of irrigation as tanks and river "bunds," which in the greater part of India are the only practicable means of insurance against droughts, are a vain waste of public money. When the usual rains fail, we can only trust to the perennial supply of water from mountain streams, which are dependent on the protection afforded them, against the absorbing action of the sun and soil, by the presence of the vast forests which overshadow their head springs and upper watersheds. Irrigation, which we are being heedlessly told is the one thing needful to protect India from famine, is impossible without a perennial supply of water for the irrigational tanks, reservoirs, and canals; and it is just this perennial supply of water which, owing to the gross neglect of forest conservancy, particularly in the Madras Presidency, is almost everywhere wanting throughout India. Irrigational works dependent upon uncertain sources of water supply can prove but ineffectual remedies against the evils they are intended to remedy.

Then as to the carriage of food, even Sir Arthur Cotton has at last admitted that something may be said in favour of railways, and any one reading through Mr. Digby's book, or the Parliamentary papers on the famine, will be convinced of the beneficent part they have played during its continuance. In short, it seems almost self-evident that when famine exists in a district, railways must prove the most expeditious means for bringing to it the surplus food of neighbouring districts which are not affected. The problem then arises, "In what manner shall the food traffic be conducted, and shall the necessary supplies be obtained by government or left to the ordinary course of trade?" In many former famines the Indian Government took the responsibility upon themselves, but latterly it has shown an inclina-

on to adopt the other policy. There can be no question that Government cannot successfully compete with trade, neither can the interference of Government with the legitimate objects of trade conduce to a healthy disposition of the natural relations of supply and demand. Nevertheless, the Madras Government justified a departure from the course suggested by the true principles of political economy by the pleas that a reserve of grain was necessary to meet the various difficulties arising from the caprices of native trade and the insufficiency of local capital; and that the Government found itself suddenly confronted with a large proportion of the labouring population of a vast area of the entire presidency, which had become dependent on state relief works for the means of earning their daily food, while food was not obtainable by them with whatever money they could earn. These pleas were not accepted by the

Government of India, and it may now be regarded as the recognized policy of the Indian Government not to interfere in a similar manner with trade in the event of future famines.

The only practicable form of relief to able-bodied paupers in times of scarcity consists in their employment on public works; and the question was raised, as we are reminded by Mr. Digby, during the late famine, whether it was better to undertake a number of small, scattered works in different localities, so as to take the work to the people, or fewer but larger works, to which it would be necessary to bring the people; and the general conclusion appears to have been that, so long as the distress was not very great nor wide spread, the former plan was preferable, but that large relief works, with relief camps in their neighbourhood, were more economical when the distress became greater and more extended. The works best suited for famine relief are those in which little skilled labour is required, such as roads and railways.

No little discussion arose in Madras as to the quantity of food necessary for the support of life among the paupers. At first the amount was fixed at 1½ lb. per diem for labourers on the relief works, but this was subsequently reduced to 1 lb. The change gave rise to a great outcry, and Dr. Cornish, the Sanitary Commissioner of Madras, joined issue with Sir Richard Temple on the point, contending that the 1 lb. scale was insufficient. The discussion raged long and hotly, and is still unsettled, and this unhappy question remains with many others to be finally determined by the Famine Commission which is about to proceed to India.

There can be no doubt that the famine was attended with an appalling loss of life. The number of deaths which can fairly be attributed to the late famine is still unknown, and will probably ever so remain. The last census was taken in 1871, and although a normal annual increase in population has been assumed for the purpose of ascertaining its numbers before the famine, the figures assumed cannot be accepted without question. The number living in the affected districts before the famine cannot, therefore, be stated with any degree of accuracy. With regard to those returned as missing after it, it is known that multitudes emigrated to more favoured districts. Thus it is impossible to ascertain the actual loss by famine deaths. That it has been overwhelming and unprecedented there can be no doubt, but whether the total has amounted to the awful sum of four millions, or one million and a quarter will ever, we believe, remain an unanswered, because unanswerable question; which should give the people of England no rest until famines in India shall, so far as human foresight, skill, and energy are accountable, have been made impossible.

It is of good augury that at a time when all questions connected with the land in India, forest conservancy, irrigation, assessment, and communications, are sure to increasingly engross the attention of Government, the India Office should possess in Sir Louis Mallet, the permanent Under-Secretary of State, one of the first of living English political economists; and that the policy of Government in relation to India is subject

in Parliament to the review, in the House of Commons, of so thoroughly informed and philosophical a critic as Mr. Grant Duff, and in the House of Lords, of a statesman of such sound political judgment and practical Indian experience as Lord Northbrook.

Mr. Digby estimates with perfect impartiality the services in the famine of Lord Lytton, the Duke of Buckingham, and Sir Richard Temple. Their conduct was, indeed, beyond all praise. They had differences between themselves, which the public has already forgotten; but the good they did will live after them, at least amongst the people of India. Mr. Digby's own services also were invaluable, and deserved a better fate than to be consigned to oblivion in these two dry and chaotic volumes.

Orion; or, How I came to Sail alone in a 19-ton Yacht. By R. T. M'Mullen. (Wilson.)

This volume is of miscellaneous character, treating not alone of yachting, but, among other things, of American life-boats, erroneous impressions, fish near the surface, training ships, the use of tobacco, road-engines, scientific speculations, and Idlers' Unions. It derives its chief interest, however, not from any of these, nor from the narrative of the single-handed sail across the Channel, but from the portrait it furnishes of a remarkable man. This is the author himself. Mr. M'Mullen apologizes for being too personal.—

"The great and unpleasant difficulty in relating personal experience is," he confesses, "the appearance of egotism. Much skill is sometimes displayed in trying to circumvent the pronoun, seldom with effect, where it would be advisable to use it if writing of another person. Where simply omitted, the effect is to make sentences short and jerky, certainly not more agreeable."

For reasons to be gathered from these remarks he asks the reader to accept his apology for pursuing the simple course, and not "circumventing" the pronoun. We are rather glad he came to this decision.

Mr. M'Mullen in his ocean home is a study. His crew consisted of two men—whose surnames are "omitted for the sake of their families,"—Henry, "who had been to many parts of the world," and George, "who was recommended by Henry." Both were addicted to the bad habit of studying their own comfort. The employer wished for rough bracing weather; his men liked smooth water. The scheme was to sail down the north coast of France as far as Cherbourg, and, after a stay there, to proceed to Dartmouth, "and take Mrs. M'Mullen on board for a month's pleasure among the Devonshire harbours"; then, "according to custom," to return home. But while man proposes fate disposes. Mrs. M'Mullen failed to have her month's pleasure on the coast of Devon, and Mr. M'Mullen had what he euphemistically describes as "a time of it."

Under hopeful circumstances, the Orion left Greenhithe on the 13th of July last year, with a fresh wind and ten days' provision on board. She had hardly got out to sea before the seamen, especially he who had been to many parts of the world, began to grumble because they were kept "sailing all day, and had to turn out early, getting no proper rest." The other, who had been well recommended, "wanted to do as little as possible," and in this

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he was cordially supported by his friend. When George was told to get the jib out "he made an exhibition of himself, and showed he was master of other than polite language." Henry took a seat on the mizen beam and said, "it was hard they could not get their dinner in peace, but must have it spoilt with sea water." Angered at this "crowning absurdity and childish nonsense," Mr. M'Mullen decided to anchor in Dungeness road for the night, and think things over. "More things," he observes, are presented to the mind in half an hour lying down than can reasonably be expected to occur in a month." After breakfast next morning he called upon his crew separately to state whether they desired to leave the vessel or continue the cruise. They elected to stay on board and follow the owner wherever he led. With the prospect of a good storm, they again set sail. Then the grumblings were renewed, when, "in the hope of checking the nuisance" once and for ever, Mr. M'Mullen called his men together, and told them a story which ought to have convinced them that two men with families should not be constantly below together when under way. The story brought a ghastly smile into Henry's face, but, at night, when it rained hard and looked very dirty, Henry was again "disposed to be insolent." When remonstrated with, each promised to amend his ways, but these promises invariably proved to be worthless, and, at last, "the kindly feeling that had hitherto subsisted had quite departed, and, if I may be excused for saying so, hanging them mentally had taken its place." The whole of the unpleasantness, we find, was due to the fact that the men used tobacco, and were "enervated by excessive smoking." At least, this is Mr. M'Mullen's "explanation and excuse for their silly conduct." At 5 A.M. on the 24th of July, they anchored off Cherbourg, and thus ended the first part of the cruise.

The second part was to be from Cherbourg to Greenhithe. But how? For four days Mr. M'Mullen had been in a state of wretched uncertainty what to do. It vexed him to think George and Henry should go home and report that he had cruelly overworked them, and allowed them no proper rest. Finally, however, he determined "to prove how unmanly and contemptible were their complaints by taking sole charge, and, if possible, working back single-handed the way we came out." Thus it happened that Mr. M'Mullen came to sail alone in a 19 ton yacht.

As a matter of prudence he thought proper to confide to some one his intention to undertake the enterprise. At last he met a gentleman on shore who, "though unknown to me, was in every way the most fit and proper person." Of course the gentleman used dissuasive arguments. He did more. He offered assistance. But Mr. M'Mullen was inexorable. Having written several "letters of a vague description,"—two to allay anxiety in case of unforeseen delay, one to go ahead of the men to explain the circumstances of their leaving, and another for assistance at Dover if the Orion should appear off that place with a certain signal flying,—he determined to take the vessel to sea by himself. His excuse for assuming the task is

"to prove to past, present, and future what one determined will can accomplish, and show what unmanly seamen they must be who cannot do

without complaining, I will not say a third, but half the work that I could; whose weight was not, as somewhere suggested in print, anything like 14 stone, but 8 stone 10 pound, while theirs was over 10 and over 12 stone respectively."

We have no sympathy with prodigies, and make no allowance for them. A picture drawn by the left toe is to be valued no higher than if it had been executed by the right hand. The man who walks a thousand miles in a thousand hours, or hops on one leg a thousand yards, when not obliged to do it, deserves contempt rather than admiration. In the same way the owner of a yacht who voluntarily crosses the Channel alone not only risks his own life but endangers the lives of others. With the tiller in one hand, a biscuit in the other, and a rope in his mouth, Mr. M'Mullen was a pitiable and not, as he himself supposed, a heroic spectacle.

A smack of the Orion's tonnage usually carries six hands. The Orion herself, therefore, would not be over manned with a crew of three. But Mr. M'Mullen was determined to perpetrate his freak. That he knew there was danger may be gathered from the narrative. After a variety of operations necessary for the voyage, and after three yachtsmen in the harbour had done their best to dissuade him, our author got under way. As he had everything to do, and much of the work was dirty work, the helm had to be frequently lashed and left. On each occasion, owing to the freshness of the wind, the yacht sheered so much to windward during Mr. M'Mullen's two or three minutes' absence that half a point had to be allowed. To sit down to a meal was impossible. "Even the nearest things at hand, the main and mizen sheets, required the helm to be lashed and left; everything else necessitated a walk at least as far as once the length of the room in which the reader is sitting, and often a descent into the cabin in addition." To get anything to eat entailed "rushing up the ladder every two minutes to see if all were going right, and down again for another mouthful of stale bread, butter, and potted meat (dreadful rubbish), topping up with a tumbler of claret."

However, in twenty-seven hours from the time of heaving up off Cherbourg the Orion brought up off the town of Dover, having crossed the Channel without any accident to the craft or its owner, except that the latter had lost "between two or three pounds in weight during these few days." Still, after reading Mr. M'Mullen's adventure, we must confess that of all the excuses for yachting the desire "to prove to past, present, and future what one determined will can accomplish" is about the worst.

Outlines of General or Developmental Philology. By R. G. Latham, M.A., M.D. (Longmans & Co.)

THIS book can hardly add to Dr. Latham's reputation as a writer on philology. It seems to be a collection of rather random thoughts on the nature and history of language, put together carelessly with a good deal of repetition, and with almost oracular obscurity. The reader is told in the Preface that the volume contains an outline of the method of investigation rather than a collection of any specific results. Philologists would have preferred more results. At p. 100, we find inci-

dentially that the leading doctrine of the work at large is "the hypothesis that the inflections are, as a rule, deducible from and reducible to formatives, which themselves were originally separate and independent words." We quite agree with this doctrine, which, to the best of our belief, is generally accepted. But it could have been proved by simple instances pretty clearly in a few pages; and Dr. Latham's proof of it would have been clearer if unencumbered by the numerous suggestions on the nature of mood, voice, number, which rest partly on *a priori* reasoning, partly on a slender induction of examples, good in themselves, but unequal to bear the burden laid upon them. Thus, for instance, at pp. 100-2, Dr. Latham suggests that plurals were originally collectives. Perhaps they were; but it is hardly enough for a proof to say that in the infancy of enumeration the notion of collectiveness prevailed over that of plurality, but that as definite numeration became clearer, plurality would prevail over collectiveness; and to eke out this argument by the fact that you can make a Hindustani or a Persian plural by inserting a movable syllable between the base and the inflection. Again, in considering the formation of the middle and the passive voice Dr. Latham rightly makes much of the Norse use of the reflexive pronoun (*sik* = self), a use also found in Lithuanian, and traceable in Latin and Keltic: out of this middle a passive was developed. But this should not have been converted into a general rule in the summary at p. 173, as though there were no other method for the formation of voice, such as the addition of *ya* in Sanskrit, where the principle is quite different: the Greek formation is indeed once mentioned, but it is not regarded as important, and the general impression left is that there is one natural way of forming voice, the more so because Dr. Latham frequently insists that there is no tautology in language, "no method of forming a second inflection absolutely identical with one already existing, and along with which it can be used concurrently."

Perhaps the best part of Dr. Latham's book is his discussion of gender. As he rightly says, "gender is one thing: sex is another"; sex is a natural division, gender (as we find it) an artificial one; not only are inanimate things spoken of as "he" and "she," but even the most important natural distinctions have sometimes no grammatical sign; e.g., *father* and *mother* are found in the Aryan languages with no sign of gender. No doubt we have *bonus pater* and *bona mater*: but the gender here is in the adjective, not in the substantive; *pater* and *mater*, apart from an adjective, participle, or pronoun, are genderless, and identical in their inflection. Again, the facts of the Aryan languages seem to show that in that group, at all events, it was the distinction between the animate and the inanimate which was first recognized; that the form which we call neuter existed before there was any recognized distinction of masculine and feminine. Dr. Latham holds that it was the adjective which first gave gender to the substantive, and that the adjective took it from the pronoun: not from the first and second personal pronouns (where gender is practically unnecessary), but from the demonstrative; "this" and "that" need differentiation in

speech, to show whether it is a man or a woman that we are speaking of; "I" and "you" do not, because the fact is alike obvious and immaterial. We do not feel convinced that the adjective in all cases caused gender in the substantive; Dr. Latham does not sufficiently consider the fact that the feminine noun is often a distinct base (ending in *a*, but the masculine in *d*), which was probably used (without any intermediate) to express in certain cases the distinction of sex: and then (as to us seems more probable) this distinction in form was transferred to the adjective. But we are disposed to agree with Dr. Latham in attributing the origin of gender to the pronoun. This result agrees substantially with Bleek's conclusions, drawn from the South African dialects.

The section on Mood contains a good deal that is suggestive; but there is too much time spent in trying to draw out a correspondence between the logical and grammatical categories. This is not only out of place, but positively deceptive in the historical treatment of grammar, which most certainly did not set out from the standpoint of logic. Also, Dr. Latham does not shake himself clear of the trammels of terminology. In discussing the origin of the conjunctive mood, he seems unable to conceive of it except as joined on to a main sentence by some veritable "conjunction." Surely it is time that the fact should be recognized that grammarians made their terms to express some one usage only, that which struck them as the most important in the most highly developed state of the language which they studied. But this affords no presumption for the belief that such usage was, in any case, the original one—that the conjunctive was originally struck out to distinguish only verbs in dependent sentences, or that the optative in the beginning expressed nothing but a wish. In reality the evidence obtained by tracing these moods back to the earliest times tells just the other way. Dr. Latham's hypothesis on their origin is certainly wrong. He thinks that their distinctive signs are somewhat akin to the method of accent, stress, tone, &c., rather a modification of existing materials than the addition of any new formative element. He unluckily gives as an instance *sim* as formed from *sum* by merely modifying the vowel, but of course the old form was *sīem*, which shows better than any other Latin word the true formative suffix corresponding to *η* in Greek and *ya* in Sanskrit.

There are unfortunately a good many other blunders of this kind, especially confusion of the formative element in nouns with the inflection, though the need of distinguishing these two elements is specially dwelt upon by Dr. Latham. At p. 111 the reader is told that the *ix in genetrix* is formative; of course *ix* is formative, and *s* inflection; nouns in *-tor*, such as *ductor*, are analyzed as though the formative suffix were *or*, and in consequence at p. 80 we have a curious speculation why the "passive" element *t* should occur in these words; at p. 150 we are told that *ἐτύφθην* is a combination of the passive participle and the auxiliary verb; so by analyzing *ἐτύφθην* (instead of *ἐτύφθην*) we get out of a bad etymology an equally bad theory; at p. 97 *ημέτερος* is gravely made out of *ημέis* + *τέρος* on the analogy of *nous autres*. We had hardly

realized before how important accuracy in etymology is.

There are a great many misprints, especially in Greek words; at p. 107 we have *θεός* apparently for *λέων*; at p. 126 *τύφθητον* for *τυφθῆτω*; at p. 132 *τύπτω* apparently for *τύπτει*; the queer word *λυήγηρ* (p. 80) may be due to the same cause. At p. 116 the masculine of the Anglo-Saxon pronoun is printed *heo*. At p. 125, line 8, there is a meaningless sentence, doubtless through some misprint, but an earnest study of the context has failed to show us what it is; there is another, equally unintelligible, eight lines from the bottom of the next page. Lastly, why the verb "signify" is always printed (in five different places) *sign-ify* is a puzzle of which it is hard to see the solution.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Arthur Jesseson. By J. C. Scott. 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

By-ways. By Mary W. Paxton. 3 vols. (Tinsley & Co.)

George Hern. By Henry Glemham. 3 vols. (Same publishers.)

A Simple Maiden. By Leslie Keith. (Marcus Ward & Co.)

The Donalds. By Mary J. Mapother. (Dublin, Gill & Son.)

A Great Mystery Solved: a Sequel to the Mystery of Edwin Drood. By Gillian Vase. 3 vols. (Remington & Co.)

'ARTHUR JESSESON' is in the form of an autobiography, and therefore starts with a point in its favour. If what a man writes about himself is dull, he will generally fail to be otherwise than dull in writing about anybody else. Mr. Arthur Jesseson would probably have been extremely dull if he had not written about himself. But he was very conceited, and is therefore rather amusing. He was, moreover, an infant prodigy, and received about as bad an education as could have been given to him, and he had an unlimited command of money. He speaks about himself with the utmost frankness, and fortunately also in a direct style. It will be seen, therefore, that Mr. Scott has not written unsuccessfully. He has succeeded in putting himself into the position of a conceited young prig writing about himself. The rest of his merits are negative. He has abstained from "word-painting," and put as little as possible into his volumes. His conversations are often very spasmodic, and resemble those in books of conversation intended to teach people to speak foreign languages. For instance:—

"How long has he been in town?"
"Only a few days."
"Tell him that I will call upon him soon."
"Very well, sir."
* * * * *
"Is he ill?"
"Yes."
"Seriously unwell?"
"Yes."
* * * * *
"I will go to him at once."
"I have a carriage with me."
"I will go by myself."
"I can walk, if you choose."
"You had better return as you came."
"Very good."

There are probably plenty of readers who will be dazzled and delighted with the doings of

a young millionaire who eats five eggs at breakfast, refuses six invitations for deer-stalking, and anchors his silk-hung gondola with the massive goblet which he had just "emptied of an ambrosial compound."

'By-ways' is by no means a happy title to give to a novel which, though full of faults, has at least the merit of being easily intelligible. The plot is entirely free from any intricacy. It merely relates the successful efforts of a certain match-making widow to dispose of her daughters in the marriage market. 'By-ways,' in fact, details with great amplitude the several settlements in life that Mrs. Caldwell's five daughters respectively achieve. As a family, the Caldwells are not nice. The girls are some of them beautiful, all rude and unladylike, all have venomous tongues and shrewish tempers, two of them deliberately lie, and one of them steals bank-notes from her husband, of which Mrs. Caldwell becomes the "receiver." Miss Paxton can certainly produce better work than this; better both in conception and execution. Besides numerous grammatical slips, there are, unfortunately, such orthographical blunders as "nack" for *knack*, and "nickerbockers"!

Mr. Glemham gives a strongly drawn picture of every-day life in a small coast town in Suffolk. The details are most amply worked out, and the "harmonies" well preserved; but unfortunately the interest of the tale is not equal to the labour evidently bestowed on the delineation of the characters. The names chosen by the author for places and persons are singular and uncouth in the extreme. We have Storker, Oxburrow, Craggy, Howsegoe, Butters, Anguish, Garlick, Swidger, Baallum, Olabar, Creaks, Bodle, Ponditch, Mudd, Bilge, and Bumper! In fact, not half a dozen characters in the book are blessed with a name that was ever heard before. An amusing instance of the peril of using unusual words occurs in the third volume, where a printer's error has transformed *skinks* into "skunks." Moloch, too, appears as "Molock."

Another volume of the "Blue Bell Series" contains a prettily told but painfully-simple story. A somewhat impetuous youth falls in love with a girl, and invests her with a number of ideal qualities. The young lady is extremely matter-of-fact, and jilts him. There is more excuse for her than the author seems to see, as it is clear that Jim's love is of the most selfish kind, and he wishes to secure her before she knows the world. Hester, the simple maiden, is as happy as good people always ought to be. Surely girls may be harmlessly amused with something more substantial than this.

Miss Mapother's book is, we presume, a novel, but it is one of the oddest we have ever seen. Each chapter contains a minute account of something that happened, but has no particular connexion with the next. Accordingly, though we learn a great deal about the Donalds and a number of other people, the book wants the unity of interest which goes to make a story, and the sequence which one looks for in a chronicle. But there is this to be said for Miss Mapother—she undoubtedly shows some powers of observation; her descriptions of people, though they are usually too long, often evince originality, though we should think Miss Mapother has made her friends or enemies sit very still for their portraits. Novel readers will, however, hardly tolerate the in-

sition of stories and dramatic sketches by the characters of the book, and will probably grow tired of the constant squabbles which take place between the various brothers and sisters. If Miss Mapother were to work hard at the making of something like a plot, she has shown that she has the power to make the actors engaged in it more than mere puppets, and the opportunity of observing life in a condition not yet overworked by novelists.

Mr. Gillan Vase introduces his sequel to the 'Mystery of Edwin Drood' with a preface which is almost pathetic. "Full of trembling hope," he says, "full of fear, I place it in the hands of the public. In a few short weeks I shall know whether it has strength to live, or whether it must die." Having been deeply interested by Dickens's fragment, he felt keen regret that no one "would gather up the broken threads and weave the story to its end." So he determined to solve the mystery for himself. Now that he has solved it, he claims indulgence on the ground that from a long sojourn abroad he has become "almost half a foreigner." The Preface is dated at Hanover. If Mr. Vase had but lived in France instead of in Germany; if he had only been in the habit of reading French novels, or of examining the book-stalls at foreign railway stations, perhaps his book would never have been written. It is not without a twinge of sorrow that we have to make the revelation to him that the 'Mystery of Edwin Drood' has already been finished by one of Dickens's "many literary friends." There were difficulties about the continuation being published in English and in England, but a French version has been published in France. 'Le Crime de Jasper,' "par Charles Dickens et Wilkie Collins" (Paris, Dentu), is to be had for two francs. But though this fact tells against Mr. Vase's Preface, it forms no objection to his book. Mr. Vase should have given us his book without his reasons, for though his reasons are bad his book is not. Nor was any apology necessary for peculiarities of language or style due to foreign influence. There is nothing un-English about Mr. Vase's writing; the objection most people would make to it is that it is too close an imitation of the style of Dickens. The attempt has been made often before, and has always failed. It is fatally easy to imitate some of Dickens's mannerisms, but impossible for anybody to write freely in his style. It cost Dickens himself a great deal of labour, as any one can see by looking at his manuscripts in the Forster collection at South Kensington. Mr. Vase possibly never had the advantage of doing so; and we are not concerned with laying down the proper way to write a continuation of the 'Mystery of Edwin Drood.' Mr. Vase has shown a good deal of ingenuity and great industry in working out his solution of the mystery. Unfortunately he has wanted the skill to make the solution complete without a long confession by Jasper and an explanation by Edwin Drood. According to Mr. Vase, Jasper made preparations for disposing of Edwin by abstracting the body of Mrs. Sapsea from her coffin in the vault in Cloisterham Cathedral, and burning it in a lime-kiln. Having induced Edwin to come with him one night into the cathedral, he slipped a noose round his neck, and put him into the empty coffin. Jasper escapes detection

for a long time, and continues to pursue Rosa. But there are several persons who suspect him, and they are actually on his track when he has succeeded in catching Rosa alone by the river-side. Escape being impossible he seizes her, and jumps with her into the water. A stranger saves Rosa, and Mr. Chisparkle, the minor canon, drags Jasper to shore. Of course the stranger ultimately proves to be Edwin Drood, but it needs his own explanation to show how he escaped from the coffin, and why, having done so, he remained in concealment. This seems to be the weakest part of Mr. Vase's solution. In the first place it is always weak to rely upon explanations by the characters themselves in a story, and then Mr. Vase has not succeeded in making Edwin's reasons strong enough to satisfy the reader. Lastly, there is too much space occupied in bringing about the inevitable love of Edwin and Rosa after the mystery is disposed of. We hope Mr. Vase will take it as a compliment that we have pointed out what we consider to be the faults of his book, instead of merely expressing in general terms an opinion as to its merits.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. send us *Selections from the Poetical Works of Heinrich Heine*, by an anonymous translator, of whom it may be simply said that he has failed to achieve the impossible. Now and then, perhaps, some one person manages to render some one poem of Heine's without letting all the charm evaporate; but even such qualified success as this is very rare. Probably a great part of the pleasure one derives from reading Heine's verse, or prose either, for that matter, arises from the feeling of incongruity between the thought and the language. *Esprit* in German seems as odd as humour in the pulpit, and produces all the more effect from the apparent unsuitability of the vehicle to what it has to convey. To take one example: Heine's remark that the three chief adversaries of Napoleon had already met a horrible fate—"Loudonderry hat sich die Kehle abgeschnitten, Ludwig XVIII. ist auf seinem Throne verfaul, und Professor Saalfeld ist noch immer Professor in Göttingen"—sounds almost flat in English. So, too, do many of his quips against the Berliners; the quaint thing is to hear sarcasm upon Ashdod and Ascalon in the mother-tongue of Philistia. But besides this—for after all the German mind is not wholly Philistine—Heine possessed to the full the Teutonic poetical temperament, with its delight in the more sombre aspects of nature, melancholy legends and superstitions, and "Weitschmerz" generally, only intensified by his Jewish genius. This, again, does not well bear transplantation to a country where the pine is nearly as much an exotic (if we may believe Cesar) as the sentiment which it inspires. Many of the poems in which this spirit is embodied have been wisely left alone by the present translator, and the humorously-sarcastic ones are almost entirely absent. But even in those less characteristically Heinesque pieces which he has attacked, it must be said that he has contrived to lose much of what they possess of the author's peculiar manner. Take almost at random one from the 'Lyrisches Intermezzo,'—that which begins "Ein Jüngling liebt ein Mädchen," which is thus rendered:—

A youth once loved a maiden,
But she must needs prefer
One who, alas! had chosen
Another bride than her.

Straightway the maiden marries
Merely from spite, in truth—
The first who comes to woo her;
And now, Heaven help the youth.

This is an old, old story,
Yet now as it is old;
And those to whom it chances,
They break their hearts—I'm told.

—The words we have marked with Italics are entirely the translator's own, and the least comparison with the original will show how entirely they change the character of the poem, which is nothing if not simple even to *naïveté*. So in some of the "Nordsee" series, the translator has for the irregular dithyrambic measure of the original substituted neat Tennysonian blank verse; very fair of its kind, but not Heine. As far as mere translation goes he is generally pretty correct, at least where the claims of rhyme and metre do not interfere. These last though are hardly enough to justify him in rendering "elend" by "desolate" in the well-known "Ich grölle nicht," and its sequel, and thus weakening those vigorous little poems out of all knowledge. In another place he has spoilt a line by a blunder in translation, "Und unerbittlich eilt er hinab," u. s. w., in the "Sonnenuntergang" should not be "And unpeased, he sinks below the flood," but "And inexorable below," &c. The last is, we venture to think, both better rhythm and better sense.

MESSRS. SAMPSON Low & CO. have sent us *The Survivors of the Chancellor*, by Jules Verne, translated by Miss Ellen E. Frewer, in two parts. The first contains a commonplace account of a voyage and wreck; the second part is only new in the disgusting plainness with which the author recounts the horrors of starvation on a raft. M. Jules Verne, having made his reputation, appears to find it no longer necessary to trouble himself by the exercise of the power of invention which he once displayed. He is content now to appeal to that portion of the public which gloats over atrocities. There is not even a semblance of likelihood in the incidents; difficulties are surmounted with an almost Munchausen-like ease, and the manner of these escapes is one of mere rough generality, which to us at least takes away all interest. Miss Frewer's work is done well enough, but she shows want of knowledge of nautical matters, as, for instance, by using the word "larboard" instead of *port*.

FROM the same publishers comes a new volume of "The Rose Library" called *In the Wilderness*, by C. D. Warner, who collects several short stories and studies written after a summer spent in an out-of-the-way part of the country. There has been too much of Mr. Warner's form of American humour imported of late, and its quality has deteriorated. In this book it is very bad. The slangy jocosity which is the note of most sporting tales always reaches the climax of dreariness in the adventures of Cockney sportsmen. If there is a still higher point to be attained, the addition of American humour helps the author to reach it.

We have to record two important bibliographical pamphlets, *L'Imprimerie en Bretagne au XV^e Siècle*, published by the Société des Bibliophiles Bretons. The first known book in Brittany is *Le Trépassement de la Vierge (en vers)*, Bréhat-Loudéac, December, 1484. Signor Moisé Soave, of Venice, on the occasion of the fourth congress of the Orientalists at Florence, has published a pamphlet in Italian on the Soncino family in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries with the enumeration of the books printed by them. We noticed lately in these columns a similar treatise by Signor F. Sacchi.

We have received sermons in Hebrew, printed in London, and delivered on various occasions by the Rev. J. Cohen-Zedeck. The preacher is known as one of the most elegant of writers in Hebrew; his expositions are a mixture of the old-fashioned Jewish mystico-agadic method with that of the new school of German rabbis. We fancy this is the first time that sermons in Hebrew have been printed in England. The Hebrew title of the book is *Sepher Mussar Haskel*, 'Book of Instruction of Wisdom' (Prov. i. 3).

We have also received the fifth official Report of the Old Catholic Synod which took place at Bonn, June 12th-14th. The chief object of this year's meeting was the discussion of Celibacy. Seventy-five voted for its abolition and twenty-two for its retention. The motion of the majority having been

adopted by the Congress, Dr. Friedrich announced his retirement from the Synod, and Dr. Reusch protested against the right of the Synod to adopt such a resolution.

THE last-issued fasciculus of the 'Bibliothèque de l'École des Hautes Études,' at Paris, contains contributions by most of the professors of the establishment, which they dedicated to M. Victor Duruy, Minister of Public Instruction under the Empire, and founder of the École in 1868. A copy on vellum has been presented to M. Duruy at the banquet given to him on the occasion by the professorial body.

MESSRS. EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE send us a large number of Christmas, New Year, and Birthday Cards, some of which are extremely pretty and tasteful, while others are somewhat crude in colour and poor in design. In some there is no printed greeting, and space is left for the insertion of the sender's own lucubrations : a good idea.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Desprez's (P. S.) Daniel and John, or the Apocalypse of the Old and that of the New Testament, 8vo. 12/- cl.

Poetry.

Schiller's (F.) Song of the Bell, translated by S. Robinson, 2/6
Law.

Chambers's (G. F.) Law relating to Highways, imp. 8vo. 8/- cl.
Philosophy.

Berkeley's Treatise on the Nature of Material Substance, with Introduction, &c., by C. Simon, cr. 8vo. 8/- cl.

History and Biography.

Biddlecombe (Sir G.), Autobiography of, cr. 8vo. 8/- cl.

Bismarck's (Prince) Letters to his Wife, his Sister, and Others, 1844-70, translated by F. Maxie, cr. 8vo. 6/- cl.

Burns's (R.) Works, Vol. 4, Prose, 8vo. 15/- cl.

Gay's (J. D.) Pleyns, the Sultan and the Porte, cr. 8vo. 6/- cl.

O'Hart's (J.) Irish Pedigrees, 2nd Series, cr. 8vo. 6/- cl.

Sergeant's (L.) New Greek, 8vo. 21 cl.

Tegg's (W.) Shakespeare and his Contemporaries, cr. 8vo. 4/-

Geography.

Capper's (J.) Old Ceylon, 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Philology.

Cremer's (H.) Biblio-Theological Lexicon of New Testament Greek, translated by W. Urwick, 4to. 25/- cl.

Defoe's (D.) Kabiusus Kitiso, translated into Persian by Sher Ali of Kabul, and edited by T. W. H. Tolbert, cr. 8vo. 7/-

Sainte-Claire's (A. M. de) Dictionary of English, French, and German Idioms, Part 1, 4to. 3/- cl.

Science.

Annandale's (T.) Abstract of Surgical Principles, cr. 8vo. 7/6

Cooke (M. C.) and Quetelet's (L.) Clavis Synoptica Hymenomycetum, 2/6 cl.

Hutchison's (Lieut.-Col. F. J.) and Macgregor's (Capt. H. G.) Military Sketching and Reconnaissance, 12mo. 6/- cl.

Spry's (W. J. J.) Cruise of H.M.S. Ship Challenger, cheap edition, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

General Literature.

All for Greed, by Baroness de Bury, 2/- Wizard of the Mountain, by W. Gilbert, 2/6 Dr. Austin's Guest, by W.

Gilbert, 2/6 bds. Select Library of Fiction.

Appleton's (G. W.) Frozen Hearts, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.

Armitt's (A.) Garden at Monkholme, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.

Day's (Mrs.) A Chequered Life, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.

Geikie's (C.) Sixth Reading-Book, cr. 8vo. 2/- cl.

Graham's (A.) At the Eleventh Hour, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

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FATHER HUBBARD AND HAMLET.

MAY I suggest that "their having read the whole tract" was the reason why Alexander Dyce, — who edited 'Father Hubbard's Tales' (as well as Shakespeare), — and other Shakespeare scholars did not bring forward earlier the phrase "nest of boys" at the Blackfriars, in 1604, as the earliest allusion to 'Hamlet,' with its "aery of children," first printed in 1623. A reader who only sees an extract from the tract in Peter Cunningham's 'London' naturally takes a different view of a phrase like "nest of boys" to that taken by an

editor, a reader of the whole tract, who finds its writer speaking of 1, a "nest of ants" who stand for men; 2, a "nest of boys"; 3, a "nest of pinching bachelors"; and 4, a "nest of ploughmen." To pick out one of these customary uses of nest,— and that its so natural one as a name for a group of boys in a little theatre,— and suggest that this use was made in imitation of Shakespeare's phrase, "aery of children," which was then possibly, if not probably, not in existence, would have seemed to Dyce and men of his class a strong measure. In the face of the instances above—coupled with the uncertainty of "aery of children" having been written by 1604—I doubt any sound critic holding that the latter phrase was intentionally imitated by the so-called Oliver Hubbard's—that is, T. M.'s—"nest of boys," taken by itself.

Even when taken with the other Shakespeare and "Hamlet" allusions or possible recollections in the tract, I do not think that this nest one can stand. To mention some of these seeming echoes of Shakespeare, we find "my lamentable action of one arm, like old Titus Andronicus" (with a note by Dyce referring to the passage alluded to in the play of the same name, v. ii., attributed to Shakespeare); "the submissive flexure of the knee" (reminding one of Henry the Fifth's "flexure and low bending" and "the beggar's knee," and Hamlet's "crook the pregnant hinges of the knee"); "his glorious rapier and hangers" (like Oaric's "rapiers and hangers"); "a very fantastical sponge, that licked up all humours, the very ape of fashion's gesture and compliment" (? Hamlet's sponge, Ophelia's glass of fashion); a poet going for his remuneration, and finding the carnation silk ribbon that tied up his book cut off by his dedicatee for shoestrings" (? possibly an allusion to Armado's and Costard's remuneration, and the latter's "how much carnation ribbon may a man buy for a remuneration?"); then, on "master Bursebell, the calves'-skin scrivener"; "and now I talk of calves'-skin, 'tis great pity, lady Nightingale, that the skins of harmless and innocent beasts should be as instruments to work villainy upon, entangling young novices and foolish elder brothers, which are caught like woodcocks in the net of the law" (like Cade's "Is not this a lamentable thing, that of the skin of an innocent lamb should be made parchment? that parchment, being scribbled o'er, should undo a man?").

Shakespeare's boys game "all-hid" is mentioned, and many other things and personages common to him and all Elizabethans, including the grave "counsellor.... Prospero, not the great rider of the horse, but . . . that great lawyer . . . this gowned idol," to whom men did submission as to God, &c. But none of these, like most of the other instances quoted above, can be relied on, though Thomas Middleton, who is said to have had a finger in 'Macbeth,' may be the author of the tract.

While, then, I cannot accept the suggestion that T. M.'s "nest of boys," whom he praises, was taken from Shakespeare's possibly non-existent "aery of children," at whom Shakespeare sneers, I am grateful to Prof. Hales for having afresh called attention to a most interesting tract on London manners, with Shakespeare recollections, read in part by me four years ago, and then forgotten. I hope soon to re-edit it for our "Shakspere's England Series" of the New Shakspere Society's publications.

F. J. FURNIVALL.

THE FOURTH ORIENTAL CONGRESS, FLORENCE, 1878.

Florence, Sept. 18.

THE personnelle of the seven sections was arranged as follows:—

I. The Egyptology or Northern Africa Section: Prof. Maspero, of Paris, President; Prof. Sapeto, of Italy, and Prof. Lieblein, of Christiania, Vice-Presidents; Edouard Naville, of Geneva, Secretary.

II. The Assyriology Section (Semitic): M. Ernest Renan, of Paris, President; Prof. Oppert, of Paris,

and Prof. Merx, of Germany, Vice-Presidents; Prof. Perreau, of Italy, and Prof. Socin, of Germany, Secretaries.

III. The Arabic Section (Semitic): Charles Schefer, of Paris, President; Prof. Cusa, of Italy, and Prof. Mehren, of Copenhagen, Vice-Presidents; Prof. Socin, of Germany, and C. Nahmias, of Italy, Secretaries.

IV. Indo-European Section: Prof. Benfey, of Germany, President; Prof. Ascoli, of Italy, Vice-President; Prof. Kerbaker, of Italy, and Prof. Pulle, of Italy, Secretaries.

V. The Indian Section: Prof. Roth, of Germany, President; Prof. Weber, of Germany, and Prof. Flechia, of Italy, Vice-Presidents; Gerson da Cunha, of Goa, and Prof. Pulle, of Italy, Secretaries.

VI. The Altaic Section: Veliamino, of Russia, President; Prof. Teza, of Italy, and Prof. Vambéry, of Hungary, Vice-Presidents; Prof. Donner, of Finland, Secretary.

VII. The Chinese, Indo-Chinese, and Japanese Section: Prof. Legge, of Oxford, President; Prof. Von der Gabelentz, of Berlin, and Prof. Andreozzi, of Italy, Vice-Presidents; H. Cordier, of France, Secretary.

This cast of officers very fairly represented the nations and scholars present. Unquestionably there was a very full assembly of very distinguished men, far exceeding any previous Congress, and the mode of election was universal suffrage by ballot. It took some time to settle, but, when once settled, it gave general satisfaction and confidence.

The Congress met in sections, and thus business was conducted with despatch, and with the full cognizance of all parties attending, as far as the great difficulty of language permitted. English, French, German, and Italian were spoken without check, but this greatly detracted from the spirit of the discussions, as few understood all, and fewer still spoke more than two languages; but this must be accepted as the great difficulty of international congresses, and the presidents and vice-presidents should be selected with reference to their capacity of interpreting briefly the purport of remarks made in a language not generally known.

A large number of communications had already been received, and were distributed to the sections; and business was prosecuted with vigour, and in passing from section to section it was interesting to listen to the different subjects earnestly discussed in different languages.

Among the number of members, in addition to the elected office-holders, we may mention Lenormant, de Rosny, from Paris; Pertach, Justi, Krehl, Weil, Dieterici, from Germany; Brandreth, Rost (Delegate of the India Office), Chereny, Cust, and John Muir from England; Leitner, specially deputed by the Viceroy, from India; Lagus from Finland, and Balbo and Haydeo from Bukarest. The Italians from the six greater and fourteen smaller universities of Italy naturally mustered in great strength, but not many names have obtained the distinction of being known beyond the limits of their own country.

Everything was done to render the stay of the foreign visitors in this charming city agreeable; the Lung Arno certainly appeared desolate, as the season had not yet begun, and there was ample accommodation to be found in gigantic hotels more than half empty. All members of Congress and their friends were admitted without charge to the galleries and other places of interest. Excursions were planned to villas of interest in the neighbourhood. The whole Congress was entertained at dinner by the Minister of Public Instruction in the fine suite of rooms of the Palazzo Riccardi. There was a great deal of speechifying in the chief languages of Europe as well as in Latin, and the eternal glorification of Libera Italia was rather tedious, and considering the heat of the weather might have been dispensed with. The celebrated Accademia della Crusca held their annual meeting during the week, and welcomed members of the Congress, but the one subject of independency

* What, no doubt, Lord Chancellor Ellesmere did with Francis Thynne's green ribbons round his autograph vellum and gilt presentation copy of his 'Animadversions' (see the Introduction to my print of it in Early English Text and Chaucer Societies).

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and the Dinastia di Savoia seems to permeate and absorb the whole of Italian public, private, political, and literary life: it seemed to crop out in every discussion, in the pages of every book, and the corner of every street, and, to a stranger, seems to be rather wearisome and egotistic, and if so to nations who have long achieved their liberties, it must seem doubly offensive to those who, like Finns, Russians, and Germans of the Baltic provinces, seem to have no chance of ever achieving them.

On Wednesday, the 18th, a general photographic picture was taken of the whole assembly, and the final meeting was held in the Sala di Senato, when it was announced that the next Congress would be held in 1880 in Germany, the place left to be fixed by the German Oriental Society: it is doubtful whether this will answer.

Among the many deficiencies of the arrangements of this Congress I may notice as the most conspicuous the absence of those daily bulletins which appeared so regularly at St. Petersburg.

R. C.

M. E. DAUDET'S NOVELS.

We have received the following letter from M. E. Daudet:

Paris, 36, Rue de Berlin, Sept. 24, 1878.

Monsieur,—On me signale aujourd'hui seulement dans un numéro de l'*Athenæum*, en date du 14 Septembre, un article dont l'auteur, en rendant compte d'un de mes romans, 'La Marquise de Sardes,' exprime cette idée, "que je devrais mettre en tête de mes livres, non la liste de mes œuvres, mais la liste des œuvres de mon frère Alphonse Daudet, dont la popularité," dit-il, "a fait ma réputation."

Il m'est impossible, Monsieur, de laisser passer cette allégation sans y répondre. Personne n'applaudent plus que moi aux succès de mon frère, et ceux qui nous connaissent savent quelle affection passionnée a toujours existé et existe entre nous; mais, je ne crois pas manquer aux devoirs que cette affection m'impose, en rétablissant la vérité. Ma notoriété est le résultat de vingt années passées dans la presse, de plusieurs romans, et de divers livres d'histoire: 'Le Ministère de M. de Martignac,' 'Le Procès des Ministres,' 'La Terreur Blanche,' dont l'un a été couronné par l'Académie française. Depuis longtemps déjà, mon frère jouit en France d'une grande réputation. Mais, sa popularité date de 1874 et de ce chef-d'œuvre qu'on nomme 'Fromont Jeune et Risler Ainé.' A cette époque, Monsieur, j'occupais déjà, comme lui, dans les lettres un rang honorable, et je ne suppose pas que les très retentissants et très légitimes succès qu'il a obtenus m'en aient fait descendre. J'ai donc le droit d'affirmer que ma réputation est bien à moi et ne doit rien à personne qu'au public dont la bienveillance l'a faite.

Vous voudrez bien me pardonner, Monsieur, d'avoir occupé un moment vos lecteurs de ma personne. J'accepte avec déférence les critiques que votre collaborateur, usant de son droit, a infligées à mon livre; mais, je tiens trop à l'estime des lecteurs de votre savant recueil pour subir avec la même résignation le reproche immérité de m'être fait un piédestal du nom de mon frère.

J'attends de votre courtoisie et de votre loyauté l'insertion de cette lettre, Monsieur, et vous prie de croire à mes sentiments distingués.

ERNEST DAUDET.

We were quite aware of M. E. Daudet's excellent historical works, and we never intended to deny that his literary career has been long and creditable; but we must still maintain that provincials and foreigners do frequently take up M. E. Daudet's novels, not because one of his books has been crowned by the Academy, but because they have read 'Fromont Jeune et Risler Ainé.'

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Atheneum Club, Sept. 23, 1878.

WOULD you kindly enlighten me upon a point which interests not only myself, but a number of your readers? The case is this: I bring back

a map of North-western Arabia, a country hitherto unsurveyed,—a work involving much time, trouble, and expense. I send it to my publishers, who will presently print it, and I want to know how this map, my property and their property, is defended by the law.

Of course, I cannot save myself from piracy under the plea of public service. This has been well known to me since the day when my 'System of Bayonet Exercise' was liberally rewarded by the gift of a shilling. But is it true, as friends assure me, that any mapper can, by simply changing the size of my map, by reducing or enlarging the dimensions, reprint it wherever and whenever he pleases? Is there absolutely no defence against this form of fraud?

RICHARD F. BURTON.

EBENEZER JONES.

LAST week I narrated how Ebenezer Jones and his elder sister and brother, Mary and Sumner, by the reverse of their father's fortunes, had their prospects in life darkened, but, at the same time, became emancipated from the thralldom of the well meaning but bigoted Calvinists who used to frequent the house in Canonbury Square. And in my hastily written remarks I hope there was nothing prejudiced or ungenerous. I should, I am sure, be sorry to sneer at Calvinism *per se*, or at any other honest creed honestly held by sincere men with whom I may find it impossible to agree. Some of the most worthy people I have known have been Calvinists; and I know of no more estimable body of men than dissenting ministers. Their work for good is, and has been, great. And as to creeds: if the earth is indeed the mere "cradle of man," as Mahomet once finely said, the best rocking is that which best prepares him for his "coming to man's estate." And even Calvinism, if it should—as in Mary Jones's case it did—spiritualize,—if it should purify by renunciation and a "lordship of the soul" such as hers,—even Calvinism, I say, may be more precious to the soul, and more beautiful than the somewhat conceited rationalism of which some of us are so proud. But, admitting all this, it is assuredly a disastrous and a lamentable thing when three such children as the three eldest of the Joneses are cast amid such surroundings.

But to proceed: with the flight of the Parsons, the passion for reading which Mary had always shown, but had been able to indulge so meagrely, now seized the other two, but not the rest of the family; and these three whose knowledge of literature had been almost confined to Calvinistic treatises, became eager devourers of books. The poets, and especially Shelley, followed upon Carlyle. If there is anything which is not purely original in Ebenezer's poetry it is echoed from Shelley. The 'Ode to Thought,' written in his eighteenth year, and printed in *Tait's Magazine*, and the opening of 'The Two Sufferers,' are among the few instances in point.

Not, however, that (even with the aid of such lights as now dawned upon them) they got entirely free from the effect of the creed—so fascinating because so repulsive—they had sucked in with their mother's milk; not that Mary ever really did. Still, the new ideas that now flowed into her mind could not but widen her vision, and set her inquiring into other systems of the universe than that appalling one which she had been taught was the only saving one. Though the merest child, she plunged into philosophy and theology; and, with her extraordinary intellectual penetration and vigorous memory, soon became more learned in Locke and the writers of the eighteenth century 'Sensation School' than many a man whose speciality lies in philosophical inquiry.

Nor was Ebenezer ever thoroughly emancipated in the way that Sumner was from the deep dyes which early Calvinistic training almost always leave in the soul,—though he would have been surprised to have been told so. So firmly is the system mortised in a logical foundation, that, once having accepted the theory that human logic can

be the basis of any religion, the more vigorous the mere intellect (*the Verstand*) the more difficult is it to get free from the Calvinistic chains, as we see in the cases of many Scotch Calvinists, such as Mr. Carlyle, Dr. John Brown, and others. But even when compared with such cases as these, there are no more curious instances, I think, of the tenacious vitality of early religious teaching than those which crop up every now and then in Ebenezer Jones's poetry. For instance, he had been taught that the "end of the world" would be a general conflagration. Long after his reason had discarded such a conception his imagination held it firm. After having shown in his published volume how capable he was of stripping ideas of their trappings and fringe and becoming the "Naked Thinker" he describes in his poem of that name, he writes in 1845 these appalling stanzas, in which he realizes, with a power of vision equal to Bunyan's or Blake's, the Calvinistic notion more thoroughly, I should think, than any Calvinist had done before—*see*, moreover, the world burn in the only way in which it could possibly, in those days, be supposed to burn—by the spreading outwards of the central fires. It is a truly marvellous production, and could have been written by himself alone:

When the world is burning—
Fired within, yet turning—
Round with face unclothed—
Ere fierce flames, uprushing,
O'er all lands leap crushing,
Till earth fail, fire-swathed,—
Up amidst the meadows,
Gently through the shadows,
Gentle flames will glide,
Small and blue and golden;—
Though by hard beholding,
When in calm thoughts holden,
Calm his dream will bide.
Where the dance is sweeping,
Through the greenward peeping,
Shall the soft lights start:—
Laughing maid, unstaring,
Deeming it trick-playing,
High their robes upswaying,
O'er the lights shall dart;
And the woodland-haunter
Shall not cease to saunter
When, far down some glade,
Of the great world's burning,
One soft flame upturning,
Seems to his discerning
Crocus in the shade.

These lines he calls "stanzas for music." Fancy a young lady singing them to the piano-forte! But what I wish to impress upon the reader, before proceeding with my narrative, is this,—that the poem is as characteristic of his Calvinistic training as is characteristic of Mr. Carlyle's his picture of the opera-house, and its brilliance which suggests to him the fires of Tophet. And note that this training accounts for that strange characteristic of Jones's poetry which is its most special feature—the glamour of supernaturalism he throws over the physical world. The man who from his childhood has been taught to look upon the world as a kind of Yule log created for a final bonfire can hardly, even if he is devoid of imagination, look upon "the comfortable earth" with the commonplace eyes of other men; but if he have an imagination like Ebenezer Jones's, the bonfire must be the actuality and "the comfortable earth" a delusive dream. With regard to the nature of this glamour, I cannot do better than quote some words of a gifted and esteemed friend of mine, who is himself both a fine poet and a fine critic—the Hon. J. Leicester Warren, the author of 'Philocetes':—

"There are," says he, in a letter I have just received from him, "but few poets so tantalizing in their performance as Ebenezer Jones. When he writes a bad line he writes a bad one with a vengeance. It is hardly possible to say how excruciatingly bad he is now and then. And yet at his best, in organic rightness, beauty, and, above all, spontaneity, one must go among the very highest poetic names to match him. I do not admire his invective and rhetorical bite most; because, fine as they are, I have seen all this done now and then as well before. But what I have not seen done as well before is the weird observation of the world and nature: something like, and yet wholly unlike, Blake's way of demonizing men in common-place swallow-tail coats and women in

bibs and tuckers. Blake, however, as it seems to me, neglected landscape, and only considered the human and superhuman existences of the scene. Jones does for the landscape what Blake does for the world of men and devils."

This is admirably put, and it was in order to account for this glamour, and for much besides that was otherwise unaccountable in Ebenezer Jones's poetry, that I last week dwelt at some length upon his early surroundings at Canonbury.

But I must return to the period when the three eldest children of Robert Jones were exulting in their freedom, without dreaming what kind of future was before them. A large mass of writing, both in prose and verse, was produced by the two brothers, without a thought of any other publication than that of reading it to Mary. Much of Ebenezer's early verse, indeed, consisted merely of Mary's ideas given back to her in poetic form; for, the most interesting feature in connexion with the entire family (there were six altogether) was the almost unexampled affection that existed between them. And as to those who are now interesting us, Mary, Sumner, and Ebenezer,—even when the intellectual sympathy between Mary and the two brothers waned, the affection did not suffer. And the reader experienced in human nature will not be much astonished to learn that this intellectual sympathy soon did wane. Either it was from the greater plasticity of woman's nature, which is so rarely enabled to escape from the trammels of creed or convention, or it was because, being the eldest, and therefore having had no one to temper for her the east wind of Calvinism as she had tempered it for them, she had been from the first struck more deeply home than her brothers; but, after the first delight in the new and genial ideas which she had shared with them, her soul shrank scared before what seemed to her the awful ocean of unbelief they had temptingly opened up to her. The broader and more kindly views which she got from Ebenezer and Sumner might be true, but also they might be false,—and if false, what then? The possibilities behind the veil are too tremendous to be trifled with. In a word, the wings of her soul became folded up again within the limits of sheltered belief, all her delight in the exercise of her fine intellectual faculties passing into unwavering and almost ecstatic faith. And she needed it. In deepest calamity faith is the only balm; reason can do nothing for the sorrow-struck soul that is really struck home. More far-seeing than the others, she began to realize the darkness of the future before her beloved brothers:

There was a listening fear in her regard,
As if the vanward clouds of evil days
Had spent their malice, and the sulien rear
Was with its stored thunder labouring up.

Soon, however, they all began to realize the effect of the misfortune, which, by depriving their father of the power of doing a father's part towards their support, threw them helpless to struggle in the Maelstrom of life. One of Mary's great hopes had been to see her brothers placed in professions. Her father's long and wasting illness now precluded all hope of this. The blow was a sad one to them; but she felt it most deeply at the time. She knew Ebenezer's pride; she knew his impetuosity and his morbid dislike of commercial pursuits, and she trembled for him. She seemed to foresee what he could not, how hopeless would be the lot of an idealist like him when once yoked in an occupation which he detested. She fretted and pined. There was in her a predisposition to consumption. Her health gave way. Ebenezer was seventeen when in 1837 he entered as a clerk in a warehouse in the City, and began to grind in that mill which he never left till approaching death compelled him to do so.

Yet they took their lot bravely. For six years Sumner and Ebenezer were in the same counting-house; but though their business hours were from eight to eight (and there were no Saturday half-holidays then), they never for a moment thought of "giving in" to Mammon. They still read and wrote and hoped as much as ever. Yet their position was grievous indeed.

Mammon unrighteous is always hideous, but Mammon when he is "good" is leathsome:—he is insufferable then. In selecting the place of business, as in selecting the school, their father had been especially careful that his sons should be surrounded by none but the "unco' guid." They have no bowels—these unco' guid. When Ebenezer entered a modest plea, for some little margin of time, for health (for he was still but a growing boy) or for self-culture, he was met with the answer that self-culture was dangerous for young City clerks, inasmuch as it led to pride of intellect, and pride of intellect, he must be well aware, was one of Satan's most favourite snares. If they looked round the counting-house they would find that they were the only men who had fallen into that snare. Pride of intellect was positively unknown in that well-conducted concern. The young poets found the logic to be Calvinistic and overwhelming. The bard has many short-comings, which, in the commercial world, are unpardonable sins. For instance, the now extinct art of "blooming" was not confined to the tea-trade: it was the great art of success in a great commercial country like this, and the reason why the bard never "gets on" is because he is always pretty sure to be a bad bloomer.

Yet it was during such slavery as this that the whole of Ebenezer's published volume and materials for another were written. Here is the marvel. And bear in mind that when these masculine, vigorous, and thought-laden poems were published, he was only twenty-three years of age! Is it not wonderful? We talk of the hard conditions under which Burns and James Hogg and John Clare produced their poetry; but what were they to the conditions under which Ebenezer Jones produced his? I confess I never can understand what conditions a poet can be said to lack if he has Nature in any form—Nature in any mood—around him: if he has the unsmoked sky above his head, the undefiled green grass beneath his feet. Not only does Nature engender at once poetry in the soul: she is poetry. She is as beautiful in winter as in summer; in rain as in sunshine,—as Ebenezer Jones knew:—

RAIN.

More than the wind, more than the snow,
More than the sunshine, I love rain;
Whether it droppeth soft and low,
Whether it russeth awain.
Dark as the night, it spreadeth its wings,
Slow and silently up on the hills;
Then sweeps o'er the vale, like a steed that springs
From the grasp of a thousand wills.
Swift sweeps under heaven the raven cloud's flight;
And the land, and the lakes, and the main,
Lie belted beneath with steel-bright light,
The light of the swift rushing rain.
On evenings of summer, when sunlight is low,
Soft the rain falls from opal-hued skies;
And the flowers the most delicate summer can show,
Are not stirred by its gentle surprise.
It falls on the pools, and no wrinkling it makes,
But touching, melts in, like the smile
That sinks in the face of a dreamer, but breaks
Not the calm of his dream's happy wife.
The grass rises up as it falls on the meads;
The bird softlier sings in his bower;
And the circles of gnats circle on like winged seeds,
Through the soft sunny lines of the shower.

"Poet-ploughmen,"—they ought to be as thick as blackberries! A man whose occupation takes him at cockcrow into the fields to see the sunrise boiling and flaming behind the trees—to smell the morning perfumes varying at every moment as flower opens after flower,—to hear the *first* lark (whose carol, it must be remembered, is always ten times stronger and ten times more joyous than that of the second) as he springs up and is lost among the morning steams of colour;—a man who, if he works and fares hard, never dresses for dinner, but actually feeds among hedge flowers as though he were Oberon instead of Hodge, and who, after dinner, watches the shadows of the plough-horses get longer and longer, till at last the cawing of the rooks going home to the spinney, and the deepening red of the West conjure up more and more sweetly every moment the unspeakable deliciousness of bread and onions, the unutterable luxury of a genuine mattress of genuine straw—such a man, I say, ought to be a poet in feeling

if he cannot read, and a poet *de facto* if he can. I am no sentimental, but surely there is common sense in this.

He turns up a daisy, say; there is a subject for a poem at once, no matter how poverty-stricken he may be; let him find the rhymes as he goes plodding along through the furrows; let him buy a pennyworth of paper at the "sucker-shop," and, like John Clare, "borrow a thimble of ink" and write them down. His chances in life are fine: he may some day be an Exciseman. Again, his ploughshare breaks into a mouse's nest and ruins it. Bad for "mousie," but good for bard. The subject is so poetical that the poem makes itself before ever he can reach the end of the furrow: let him write it down when he gets home, and he may be patronized by lairds and lords and made much of by editors of reviews and members of the Caledonian Hunt.

The actually free time of the brothers—if we take into account time for the walk to and from the Old Kent Road, where they now lived (the family having gone to Wales)—was from about nine at night till about six in the morning: in this brief space they had to do their sleeping and writing. Sunday was, of course, their great field day; but then there was Mary to attend to. Neither hard work, nor love of poetry, nor decline of intellectual sympathy weakened that sympathy of soul which we have seen among these three. On a Sunday evening, no matter how wearied, no matter what interesting book or interesting occupation was absorbing him, Ebenezer would leave it with a smile to escort her to the chapel, which to his mind, rightly or wrongly, suggested the caricature of the Christianity of which it professed to be the temple, strolling himself through lanes and fields now built over (but where then the nightingale sang, and the breath of summer could be felt), until it was time to guard her home again. With all this, however, he managed to find time to fall in love, more than once, and more than twice. I do not apologize for him; it argues no fickleness. A man requires great practice in the art of love before he can possibly know what to love.

But I must press forward to conclude this sketch. I must pass over some years. Their fight with life was hard. Happily, however, Mary was dead; she had died in her twenty-second year; happily for her—perhaps even for them, though they could not see it. To the idealist—to him to whom the best refinements that life can give are all too coarse—there is no foe so appalling as that ogre who was holding them at bay; and, if he must be fought, it is better to take him alone. A beloved sister is doubly a hostage to fortune, yet so profound had been the affection between them that her loss was a killing blow. It was in visiting her tomb in after years that Ebenezer wrote the lines, which appeared in a periodical, beginning

Thrice three years she hath lain in this grave;
Speak low;

and to dwell upon her memory was what he loved most. And when recalling those walks with her to the chapel, he would read section xxxiii. of 'In Memoriam,' and say how blessed he was that he could do so without remorse.

There can be no doubt that, apart from the delight of producing poetry, what kept them both up was chiefly the writings of Mr. Carlyle. "Courage and forward, young brother:" these words were ever on their lips. They loved poetry, but, like all those who really buffer with the open billows, they found that poetry, to earnest natures, is nowadays not quite large enough for the growing limbs of life. They plunged into social questions, and fought Mammon hand to hand. They contributed to the *New Moral World*; but the doctrine that circumstance is the sole formative of character would not do for men who had had experience such as theirs. It was now that that independence—unyielding, defiant almost—which was one of Ebenezer's chief characteristics, was most seen. Misfortune had balked his boyish hopes. But he was undismayed—believing that "in the reproof of chance lies the true proof of

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men." When he determined to publish a volume of his poems, he asked aid of no one. Before he took the MS. to a publisher he had saved, shilling by shilling, out of his hard earnings of twelve hours a day, enough to pay for the publication. The volume—"Studies of Sensation and Event"—was published in 1843, not in 1844, as your reviewer states. With all its remarkable merits, it was evident that it must be temporarily a failure. Of that harmonious balance of the faculties which comes into Aristotle's definition of happiness, the book shows as little as the man. In a word, its eccentricities damned it. Yet many a volume of verse immeasurably inferior to it in the very essentials of poetry has succeeded.

After all has been said about its faults, the volume is a Camacho's cauldron, full of all kinds of things rich and rare. It is not only the truthful expression of a truthful soul, but it is the truthful expression of every mood—hence its remarkable variety—its remarkable lack of unity.

No doubt one cause of the temporary non-success of the volume was that gloomy and painful nature of so many of the poems which I have connected with an imagination indelibly stained with Calvinistic dyes. That he should use as his motto Sir Joshua Reynolds's saying, that the end of Art "is to produce a pleasing effect upon the mind," is inconceivable, except on the ground of defiant wilfulness. It is something like Schiller producing "The Robbers" and "Love and Intrigue," and then telling us that "all Art is dedicated to joy, and that there is no higher and more serious problem than how to make men happy." The failure was a heavy blow to both Ebenezer and Sumner, but Ebenezer bore it with his usual "pluck." The blow, indeed, seemed to him a much greater disaster than it really was. His great desire had been to emancipate himself from the slavery into which he had through mischance fallen,—to "pull up" himself and those he so dearly loved. He believed that he could use his poetical genius as a factor towards that end. And his desire to elevate himself was the outcome of a still deeper desire and a nobler one—to become influential, in order that he might be able to shelter and to champion the oppressed of society, the down-trodden sons of toil, with whom his sympathy was a very passion.

Before the publication of the book, he would, in the midst of his office toil, slip across to the desk where sat his brother, press his hand silently, and whisper "Sumner, this is but for a time."

With all his acuteness—and he had more than most men—he believed that poetry and those rare intellectual gifts called into play in high-class literary effort could be used as weapons in the great "struggle for life." A strange mistake! yet there is no more common one among very young men of poetic genius. And those who have written about them think that poetical gifts ought to be available to a man in the art of "getting on," and have lashed the world because they never do help a man to "get on."

So far from poetic genius—so far from any of the very highest gifts—tending to the advancement of a man in "life," there is nothing so sure to keep him back; for the simple reason that the poetical endowment is a superfluous organ in the economy of the strugger. Science tells us that the organism which survives is not that which is the highest, in any ideal sense, but that which is most in harmony with those conditions that happen to immediately surround it. Accordingly, if you look through a microscope at a little black speck on a potato, you will see some hundreds of beetle-shaped creatures as busy in "getting on" as the merchants of Mincing Lane—biting each other, clawing each other for the best morsels of potato, or for all the morsels, and in other ways conducting themselves on the most approved commercial principles. And if you observe more closely, you will perceive that the little insect who succeeds best in the scuffle is not he who, from his habit of standing still every few seconds and holding his head between his claws, appears to have profounder, wider, more poetic

views than the others upon the scuffle as a general conception, and who seems to be bothered with speculations upon the nature and final cause of the potato upon whose surface the scuffle is raging, but he who has the strongest claws and sharpest teeth, and who never stops clawing and scratching for an instant. Indeed, the poetical animalcule's dawdling ruminations upon the painful riddle of the potato interfere so sadly with good clawing and biting, that at last you see the ruminator himself trampled on, and finally devoured as seasoning to the meal. Yet as an intelligence the devoured one is very likely the intellectual king of the speck. Even had the book succeeded, it would not have aided Ebenezer in the least in the art of "getting on." It was impossible for so acute a man not to soon realize this. With the conviction now that the world was a very difficult kind of oyster, which could never be opened by the poetical sword, he destroyed a mass of poetry which he had in preparation for a second volume, should the first succeed, and determined to plunge into politics. Of this volume—which was to bear the title of "Studies of Resemblance and Consent"—the last poem in his published book, called "Car la Pensée à aussi ses Ivresses," was an adumbration.

There is no doubt that his intimacy with Mr. W. J. Linton was one cause of his taking up politics with such ardour. With the exception of Mr. Horace Harral—from whom he received an infinity of tender kindness, and who was with him till within an hour of his death—Mr. Linton was perhaps his most intimate friend. Besides articles in the *Odd Fellow* and work done for Cleave & Hetherington of Shoe Lane, he produced his pamphlet on the Land Monopoly, in which he discussed the point whether the best regulation for the ownership of land in a country so highly civilized and so thickly populated as England would not be for the entire land of the country to be bought up by Government Land Commissioners, and let out to those who were willing and able to cultivate it, and make the best of it. I have read the pamphlet, and I must say that however opposite may be my own views as to the conclusion at which he arrived, I was struck with his ratiocinative power, his good temper, and masculine eloquence.

Soon afterwards he married a niece of Edwin Atherstone's. But here I reach a period in Ebenezer Jones's life which it would be rash for me to touch upon. It is so painful, and it might give such pain to others, that all I can say is that he was not happy in the woman he married, and that they were separated. Yet that he had some sweet moments of married bliss these lines will show:—

My wife, my child, come close to me,
The world to us is a stormy sea;
With your hands in mine, if your eyes but shine,
I care not how wild the storm may be.
For the fiercest wind that ever blew
Is nothing to me, so I shelter you;
No warmth do I lack, for the howl at my back
Sings down to my heart, "Man, bold and true."
A pleasant sail, my child! my wife!
O'er a pleasant sea, to many is life;
The wind blows warm, and they dread no storm,
And wherever they go, kind friends are rife.
But, wife and child! the love, the love,
That lifteth us to the saints above,
Could only have grown, where storms have blown
The truth and strength of the heart to prove.

THEODORE WATTS.

THE FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.

40, St. George's Square, S.W.

The writer of the note on the Folk-Lore Society in last Saturday's *Athenæum* has done great injustice to the accomplished and valued contributor to *Notes and Queries* who first urged the formation of that Society by speaking of it as "Mr. Thoms's Society." When the idea was first thrown out, heartily as I approved of it, I could only wish it God speed. But when the originator of this "happy thought" publicly invited me "to play grandfather to the offspring of my own bantling," I found I was not made of materials stern enough to say Nay; and I consented to give the Society the benefit of my thirty years' experience in the Camden Society in its

business arrangements, and this is all the credit to which I am entitled.

In justice to the eminent scholars, Max Müller, Ralston, Tylor, &c., who are on the Council of the Folk-Lore Society, pray let me set this matter right.

I trust the first publication issued by the Society, which will appear in November, and contain among other articles of interest "Some Notes on Folk Tales," by Mr. Ralston; "A Collection of West Sussex Superstitions," by Mr. Latham; and "The Folk-Lore of France," by Mr. Lang, will please the subscribers and add to their numbers.

WILLIAM J. THOMS.

PROF. SEAGER.

The sudden death at Florence, almost immediately after the completion of the session of the fourth Congress of Orientalists, of Prof. Charles Seager forms a most sad termination to the very successful proceedings of the Congress of 1878. Prof. Seager was a graduate of Worcester College, Oxford, where he took his degree in 1846. He devoted his attention chiefly to the study of the Semitic languages, and during his residence in the University acted as assistant to Dr. Pusey, the Regius Professor of Hebrew. His residence in Oxford being contemporary with the rise of the Tractarian party, he became closely connected with the movement, and assisted materially in the publication of the literature of the movement, and in 1842 he was elected from the Church of England. His knowledge of Oriental languages was extensive, but his special *forte* lay in the Semitic branch, Hebrew, Arabic, and Syriac being his chief study. When the Catholic University was established he was appointed to the chair of Hebrew and Comparative Philology. During the last few years he devoted considerable attention to the study of the languages of Assyria and Egypt, and was a regular attendant at the classes instituted by the Society of Biblical Archaeology for instruction in these languages. Prof. Sayce and Mr. P. Le Page Renouf, the lecturers at these classes, were among his most intimate friends. He was a member of the Council of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, and took a prominent part in the discussion of the various subjects brought before the meetings. The last part of the *Transactions* of the Society contains an elaborate dissertation by him upon the Chronology of the Books of Daniel and Esther.

His published works were few, but he is understood to have left behind him a voluminous mass of manuscript, including several papers and monographs on philological and other subjects, which he refrained from committing to the press during his lifetime, but which will probably be edited by some of his numerous friends. His extreme willingness to assist young students in their searches, and the amiable and simple manner in which he sought for information from old and established Orientalists, rendered his circle of friends extensive, and his loss will be greatly felt by all who knew him.

Literary Gossip.

The British Museum authorities have at last, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Hormuzd Rassam, supported by Sir A. H. Layard, obtained a firman in some degree suitable for the thorough exploration of Mesopotamia. The endless troubles entailed by limited firmans and vizierial letters have at last induced the Foreign Office to procure a general firman, which will permit Mr. Rassam's new expedition to assume a much more extensive character. The new firman will not, as in former cases, be confined to the sites of Koyunjik, Nimroud, and Ballawat, but will extend over the whole of the pashaliks of Mosul, Baghdad, and embrace the as yet untouched regions of Southern Babylonian.

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Orientalists may now hope to see justice done to the sites of the great libraries of Sippara, Cutha, and Agane, and other ancient cities. The Trustees have also, we believe, obtained permission to excavate on the important Terabolus (Carchemish). This site, being on the west bank of the Euphrates, and therefore in Syria, required a distinct permit. The land of North-East Syria, the old Hittite kingdom, is as yet unexplored, and important geographical identifications ought to result from this expedition.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW & CO. have in preparation for the coming season an edition of 'Our Village,' by Miss Mitford, illustrated with frontispiece steel engraving, twelve full-page woodcuts, and 157 text cuts of figure subjects and scenes, from drawings by Messrs. W. H. J. Boot and C. O. Murray, chiefly from sketches made by these artists in the neighbourhood of "Our Village."

THE extraordinary persistency with which unsuccessful candidates present themselves year after year at the Chinese competitive examinations is curiously illustrated by certain edicts in the *Peking Gazette* of last year, in which honorary degrees are conferred on forty-two candidates who were finally plucked at the age of ninety and upwards, and on one hundred and thirty-six who gave up the struggle when between eighty and ninety.

CHEAP editions in one volume of Capt. Burnaby's 'On Horseback through Asia Minor,' Sullivan's 'New Ireland,' and Spry's 'Cruise of H.M.S. Challenger,' will shortly be brought out by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co., and also of Schweinfurth's 'Heart of Africa,' in two volumes, with all the original illustrations, revised and condensed by the author. The same publishers promise the 'History and Principle of Weaving by Hand and by Power,' by Alfred Barlow; the third volume of Guizot's 'History of England,' completing the work; and 'The Irish Bar,' comprising anecdotes, bonmots, and biographical sketches of the bench and bar of Ireland, by Mr. J. R. O'Flanagan.

QUARTER SESSIONS, from Queen Elizabeth to Queen Anne, Illustrations of Local Government and History, drawn from Original Records (chiefly of the County of Devon), by A. H. Hamilton, is promised by the same firm; also 'Recollections of Writers,' by Charles and Mary Cowden Clarke, with Letters of Charles Lamb, Leigh Hunt, Douglas Jerrold and Charles Dickens, and a Preface by Mrs. Cowden Clarke; a new work by Jules Verne, entitled 'Dick Sands, the Boy Captain'; 'William Cobbett, a Biography,' by Edward Smith; a new work by Lucien Biart, entitled 'Two Friends'; 'Sancta Christina, a Story of the First Century,' by Miss Orlebar, with a Preface by the Bishop of Winchester; 'An Old Story of my Farming Days,' by Fritz Reuter; 'Covert Side Sketches, Thoughts on Hunting with different Packs in different Countries,' by J. Nevill Fitt; also the translation we have already announced of Rambaud's 'History of Russia,' by Mrs. Lang; 'Dogs of Assize, a Legal Sketch-Book in Black and White,' containing six drawings by Walter J. Allen; and 'Christian Activity,' by Eleanor C. Price, author of 'A French Heiress in her own Château.'

MESSRS. WILLIAM BLACKWOOD & SONS announce 'The Transvaal of To-day: War, Witch-

craft, Sports, and Spoils in South Africa,' by Captain Alfred Aylward, late Commandant Transvaal Republic. Captain Aylward commanded the Leydenberg Volunteers on the Boers' frontier until the Republic was annexed by the British. The same firm also promise 'Sacred Classics for English Readers,' being a Series of the Christian fathers treated in the same way as their well-known "Ancient" and "Foreign" Classics. The Rev. W. Lucas Collins is the editor.

MR. DOUGLAS has in the press two volumes of 'Reminiscences of Many Years,' by Lord Teignmouth. Among the writer's schoolfellows were Macaulay and Patrick Fraser Tytler. He was at Cambridge in the days of Mansel, Monk, and Prof. Smyth. In 1815 he was in Belgium, in 1819 he stayed at the lakes and made Southeys acquaintance, and in 1822, at the time of George the Fourth's visit, he was in Edinburgh, and saw Walter Scott. Lord Teignmouth travelled in Norway and Sweden in 1830 and 1831, when Bernadotte was king, and devotes a good deal of space to those countries as well as to an earlier tour in Italy. He sat for Marylebone from 1837 to 1841. Mr. Douglas also promises 'The English Lake District as interpreted in the Poems of Wordsworth,' by Prof. W. Knight, of St. Andrews; and 'How to keep Houses Healthy,' by Prof. Fleeming Jenkin, of Edinburgh.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO., in addition to books already announced, will publish during the forthcoming season the following works of general literature:—'Macleod of Dare,' by Mr. William Black; 'Shelley,' by Mr. J. A. Symonds, and 'Goldsmith,' by Mr. Black, in the Series of "English Men of Letters," edited by Mr. Morley; 'Dante,' an essay, by the Very Rev. the Dean of St. Paul's, with a translation of the 'De Monarchia'; a new volume of sermons, entitled 'Son, Give Me thy Heart,' by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 'Sport and Work on the Nepaul Frontier, or Twelve Years' Sporting Reminiscences of an Indigo Planter,' by Maori; 'Turner's Liber Studiorum,' a Description and Catalogue, by Mr. W. G. Rawlinson; 'Life and Letters of the Rev. Samuel Clark,' by his Widow; 'Memoirs of Matthew Davenport Hill'; 'Dress,' by Mrs. Olyphant, and 'Private Theatricals,' by Lady Pollock, in the 'Art at Home' Series; 'Social Twitters,' by Mrs. Loftie; 'The Story of the Christians and Moors in Spain,' by Miss Charlotte M. Yonge, ('Golden Treasury' Series); 'Total Abstinence,' a course of addresses by Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S.; a new and cheaper edition, in one volume, with a new Preface on African Exploration, of Sir Samuel Baker's 'Ismailia'; a new and cheaper edition, in one volume, with numerous illustrations, of Baron de Hübnér's 'A Ramble Round the World,' translated by Lady Herbert of Lea; and, in the Six Shilling Series of Popular Novels, a new edition of 'Mirage,' by George Fleming, author of 'A Nile Novel.'

THE following books for children are also promised by this firm:—a new story entitled 'Grandmamma Dear,' by Mrs. Molesworth, author of 'The Cuckoo Clock,' 'Carrots,' &c., with illustrations by Mr. Walter Crane; 'Fairly Tales, their Origin and Meaning, with some Account of the Dwellers in Fairy Land,'

by J. Thackray Bunce; and 'Stories from the History of Rome,' by Mrs. Beesly.

MESSRS. HANSARD'S Monthly List of Parliamentary Papers for August comprises forty-five Reports and Papers, nineteen Bills, and thirty-two Papers by Command. Among the first we call attention to Copy of Papers relating to the Partial Census in the Famine-stricken Districts of India; to the Account of the State of Ships in the Programme for 1878-79; to the Return of Roads "disturnpiked" from December 31, 1877, to December 31, 1878; to the Finance Accounts of the United Kingdom for the year ending March 31, 1878; and to the Amended Programme of Works in Her Majesty's Dockyards, 1878-79. Among the Papers by Command the most interesting are the Annual State of the Trade of the United Kingdom for the Year 1877; the Twenty-fifth Report of the Committee of Council on Education; the General Report on Railway Accidents for the Year 1877; the General Report on the Traffic, Expenditure, and Working of Railways for the same year; and the Treaty between Great Britain, Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Russia, and Turkey for the Settlement of the Affairs in the East, signed at Berlin, July 13, 1878.

MR. SMILES's new book, of which we have already made mention, the 'Life of a Scotch Geologist, Robert Dick, Baker of Thurso,' will shortly be published by Mr. Murray. The volume includes a memoir of Charles Peach, an accomplished geologist and zoologist, recently controller of customs at Wick, and well known in Cornwall, where he passed many years of his scientific career.

MR. ROBERT H. ELLIOT, the author of 'Experiences of a Planter in the Jungle of Mysore,' and a work 'Concerning John's Indian Affairs,' has in the press a novel entitled 'Written on their Foreheads.'

IN examining a collection of the Egibi contract tablets obtained from Babylon, Mr. W. St. C. Boscawen has discovered a small tablet dated in the seventh year of Cyrus, King of Babylon; upon the edge of which there was written a short legend in the cursive Phoenician characters. This tablet is the first document in the extensive series of Babylonian contract tablets in the British Museum which has been found to bear a Phoenician inscription. Tablets obtained from Kalakh and Nineveh have often Phoenician legends attached to them. Until the discovery here mentioned no such inscribed document had been obtained from Babylonia.

DR. INGRAM's Address to Section F. of the British Association on the present state of economic science, which has attracted considerable attention already abroad as well as in this country, will be published, with the addition of notes, in the second week of October, by Messrs. Longmans.

A COLLECTION comprising a number of Babylonian inscriptions of the time of Nebuchadnezzar and the later Babylonian and Persian kings has just been added to the Oriental department of the British Museum. These objects were obtained by Mr. Rassam during his last visit to the East.

MESSRS. BENTLEY & SON promise for the autumn 'Records of My Girlhood,' by Mrs. Butler F. A. Kemble; 'A Memoir of Dean

Hook,' by the Rev. W. R. W. Stephens; 'The Correspondence of Honoré de Balzac,' translated by Mr. C. Lamb Kenney; 'Our Old Actors,' by Mr. H. Barton Baker; 'Old Paris and its Literary Salons,' by Lady Jackson; 'The Literary Remains of Mortimer Collins,' edited by Mr. Tom Taylor; 'The History of Antiquity,' by Prof. Duncker, vol. ii.; 'Adventurous Lives,' by Bernard Becker; 'Scenes and Characters of the Reign of Louis XVI.,' by Dr. T. L. Phipson; 'A History of the Tenth (or Prince of Wales's Own) Royal Regiment of Hussars,' compiled by Mr. W. Douglas; 'The Life of Winckelmann,' translated from the German of Prof. Justi by Madame Lily Wolfssohn; 'Parish Sermons,' by the late Dean Hook, edited by the Rev. Walter Hook, Rector of Porlock; and 'Things and Other Things,' by Mr. A. de Fonblanche. The same firm promise the following new works of fiction: 'Pomeroy Abbey,' by Mrs. Henry Wood; 'First Violin'; 'Robin Adair,' by the Hon. Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh, author of 'Kilcorran,' &c.; 'The Lovers of Armstead,' by the author of 'The Queen of Connaught'; and novels by the author of 'The Wooing o't,' and by Mrs. Compton Reade.

THE germ of 'Pomeroy Abbey' (which is appearing in the *Argosy*) was first given in the *New Monthly Magazine*. Mrs. Henry Wood took the plot, and enlarged it into its present form. The second volume of the 'Diplomatic Sketches by an Outsider' will be published by Messrs. Bentley early in October. It is on 'The Danish Question.' Parts III. and IV., treating of the affairs of Greece and Italy, will shortly follow.

MESSRS. LONGMANS' list includes 'A History of England from the Conclusion of the Great War in 1815,' by Mr. Spencer Walpole, vols. i. and ii.; a Memoir of our old Contributor, Mrs. Jameson, by her Niece; a Selection from the Essays of Mr. A. Hayward; 'Literary Studies,' by the late Mr. Bagshot, edited by Mr. Hutton; a third series of 'The Recreations of a Country Parson'; 'A History of Ancient Egypt,' in 2 vols., by Prof. Rawlinson, M.A.; 'The Past, Present, and Future of the English Tongue,' by Mr. W. Marshall; 'Songs of Far-away Lands,' by Mr. Joaquin Miller, and a new edition of his 'Songs of the Sierras and Songs of the Sunlands'; vol. ii. of Sir J. Lefroy's 'Discovery of the Bermudas'; 'A Poetry-Book of Elder Poets,' 'A Poetry-Book of Modern Poets,' and 'A Prose-Book,' edited by Miss A. B. Edwards; 'Bewick's Select Fables of Æsop,' reprinted from the edition published by T. Saint, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1784, with all the original woodcuts; and 'A New Concordance to the Bible,' by Dr. R. Young.

MESSRS. HODDER & STOUGHTON's announcements include the new volume of Bampton Lectures, entitled 'Zechariah and his Prophecies, especially the Messianic, considered in Relation to Modern Criticism,' by the Rev. C. H. H. Wright; 'Religion in England under Queen Anne and the Georges,' by Dr. Stoughton; 'The Englishman's Critical and Expository Bible Cyclopædia,' by the Rev. A. R. Fausset; 'Brownlow North, Records and Recollections,' by the Rev. K. Moody-Stuart, M.A.; 'Heroes of the Mission Field,' by the Bishop of Ossory; a new volume of the Theological and Philosophical

Library, 'Practical Theology,' by Prof. van Oosterzee; 'Our Blue Jackets,' a narrative of Miss Weston's life and work among our sailors; 'Memoir of the Late Achilles Daunt, D.D., Dean of Cork,' by Rev. F. R. Wynne, M.A.; Robert Halley, D.D., a short biography, with a selection from his sermons, by his Son; 'The Pauline Theory of the Inspiration of Holy Scripture,' by Dr. W. E. Atwell; 'New Coins from Old Gold; or, Homely Hints from Holy Writ,' by Thomas Champness; 'Plain Proofs of the Great Facts of Christianity,' by Rev. F. R. Wynne; a new story by 'Silverpen,' entitled 'The Children's Isle'; 'That Boy: Who shall have Him?' an American story by Rev. W. H. Daniels; 'Ephraim and Helah, a Story of the Exodus,' by Mr. E. Hodder; and 'Knowing and Doing, and Eight Stories founded on Bible Precepts,' by Mrs. Henry Paull.

MESSRS. WM. H. ALLEN & Co. have in the press, for publication in the course of the present season: 'Warren Hastings, Biography,' by Capt. L. J. Trotter; 'A Journey in Araucania,' by Mr. G. Chaworth Musters, R.N., author of 'At Home with the Patagonians'; 'Military Life and Hunting Adventures in India, an Autobiography,' by the late Lieut.-Col. T. G. Fraser, edited by Col. G. B. Malleson; 'Entombed Alive, and other Poems,' by George Carter Stent; 'Russian and Turk,' by Dr. R. G. Latham; two novels, 'Kenneth Trelawny,' by Alice Fearon, and 'Down by the Drawle,' by Capt. A. F. P. Harcourt; a second edition of Mr. Oxenham's 'Essay on Catholic Eschatology and Universalism.' And the following philological works: 'The Arabic Text of Albiruni,' translated into English by Dr. E. Sachau, of Berlin; 'The Arabic Manual, a Compendium of Classical and Colloquial Arabic,' by Prof. E. H. Palmer; 'A Turkish Manual,' by Capt. C. F. Mackenzie; and 'The Bustan of Sadi,' a literal translation, with explanatory notes, index, and glossary, by Capt. Wilberforce Clarke, R.E.

MR. GEORGE MAC DONALD is about to publish a new novel entitled 'Sir Gibbie,' which will be printed in a serial form in the Manchester *Weekly Times*, and the Glasgow *Weekly Mail*; the first instalment will appear on October 12th. The scene of the story is chiefly in the north of Scotland.

THE ANNALS OF DUNFERMLINE,' which has been for some time in preparation under the editorship of Dr. Henderson, will shortly be ready for issue. It is to be published by subscription, and will form a thick crown quarto volume containing numerous illustrations. The history ranges over a period of upwards of 800 years, and is compiled from abbey chartularies, parochial records, and other sources. Mr. Tweed, of Glasgow, is the publisher.

MESSRS. CASSELL, PETTER & GALPIN are about to issue a book intended to relate succinctly the leading events in the world's history, under the title of 'Decisive Events in History.' The historical records are accompanied by full-page original illustrations, executed with a regard to accuracy of detail.

A LIFE of John Crichley Prince, the Lancashire poet, is in preparation by Dr. Douglas-Lithgow of Wisbech.

MR. D. C. BOULGER'S Life of Yakoob Beg,

the late Ameer of Kashgar, will be issued towards the end of next week. Mr. Gratian Geary's work on Asiatic Turkey, already mentioned in these columns, is in a forward state for early publication.

ON October 3rd will be issued the first number of a new weekly journal, *Our Children*, appealing to those interested in the moral and religious welfare of the young. With it will be incorporated the *Sunday School World*, established 1874.

MR. CHARLES KENT's edition of Burns, which we announced a week or two back as upon the eve of publication by the Messrs. Routledge, will contain, besides the Biographical Introduction, a carefully bracketed annotation prefixed to nearly every poem, song, epigram, epitaph, and impromptu. The poetical works in this edition will be complete, and arranged, as far as possible, in chronological order.

HERR BEERGOLD, of Berlin, will shortly publish a work on 'Domestic and Society Life in England.' The book is the joint composition of Fräulein Jenny Hirsch and Miss Mary M. Wall, the English lady having supplied the material and her German colleague the editing and arrangement.

M. ULYSSE ROBERT, of the national library at Paris, is preparing the bibliography of all the catalogues of MSS. which have ever appeared.

MESSRS. J. & R. MAXWELL will publish early next month Miss Dora Russell's 'Beneath the Wave.' They will also issue novels by Mrs. C. Read, and by the author of 'Sophie Crewe'; and a reprint of Mr. Sala's 'Twice round the Clock,' with all the original illustrations.

THE weekly paper *L'Instruction Publique: Revue des Lettres, Science, et Arts*, Paris, in its issues of the 31st of August and the 7th of September, contains an article by M. J. Villemain, headed 'Un Procès Littéraire: Bacon contre Shakespeare.' M. Bérard-Varagnac, in an article contributed to the *Journal des Débats* of the 21st of June, after having stigmatized the school which attributes to Bacon some of the Shakespearean plays, concludes with the following words:—"On nous permettre de penser que la théorie Baconienne n'est autre chose qu'un humbug." M. Villemain takes up the defence of the Baconian school, and concludes with the following sentence:—"En résumé, on pourrait conclure ainsi: tout ce qu'il y a de bon dans les drames de Shakespeare, est de Bacon; tout ce qu'il y a de mauvais dans les drames de Bacon, est de Shakespeare."

MESSRS. BENTLEY are about to issue a new series of handy, readable works, at the price of half-a-crown each, to be printed on good paper, in good type, and neatly bound. The series will bear the name of "The Empire Library," and six volumes, all by writers of repute, will be published simultaneously early in the new season.

MAJOR RAVERTY will shortly publish the English-Afghan Dictionary, to which he gave much time a few years ago, but laid aside for want of support. If we should, unfortunately, be obliged to undertake an Afghán campaign, we shall enter Afghánistán with one advantage we did not possess in

1838-42. Our officers now know something of the Afghán or Pus'hto language. Thanks to Major Raverty, who, by the simultaneous publication of his grammar, text-book, and dictionary, provided an apparatus for the study of the language, the Indian Government was several years ago enabled to institute examinations in Pus'hto. Although students get a premium of 50/- for this language, while for the vernacular of India and even for Persian but 18/- is allowed, the Pus'hto examinations have of late unluckily been made so easy that they are little better than a farce. New and improved editions of the three works mentioned above were lately published. Major Raverty's translation of Afghán poetry, and his illustrated version of 'Aesop's Fables,' which is a word-for-word translation from the English of Canon James, are also important helps—indeed, the latter work is an invaluable aid to the acquirement of a colloquial knowledge of the language. It is to be hoped the Government will give encouragement where encouragement is due. It is easy to compile grammars and dictionaries after a painstaking student has made them, but the pioneer's is a severe task.

A RUSSIAN translation of Miss Braddon's 'Birds of Prey' is, a correspondent tells us, whether in jest or in earnest we cannot say, highly popular just now both in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Over nineteen thousand copies of 'An Open Verdict' have, he tells us, been sold in this country.

MR. EVELYN JERROLD'S new book is to be styled, 'The Life and Labours of Balzac,' not 'Life and Letters,' as we announced last week.

SCIENCE

Flowers, their Origin, Shapes, Perfumes, and Colours. By J. E. Taylor, Ph.D. (Hardwicke & Bogue.)

THIS is an excellent little book of its sort, though its title is perhaps somewhat deceptive. It is no treatise of flowers, as a horticulturist might fairly suppose, but a description of plants from the standpoint of a scientific botanist. And even here it for the most part confines itself to an account of how plants are fertilized by the wind or insects, and then distributed. If there is nothing very new, and if Mr. Darwin and Sir J. Lubbock are pretty closely followed, it is at least well to popularize this class of subject, and the work is on the whole done well and carefully.

Dr. Taylor first assails the old orthodox theory that flowers were formed for the mere gratification of man, and, as he evidently believes this theory to be connected with the story of the Garden of Eden and the Fall, he writes cautiously and with the fear of the theologians before his eyes. But, of course, he is altogether right in his conclusions, and the fact that flowers do give pleasure to man is quite distinct from the reason of their origin. Dr. Taylor's attack upon the poets, a few pages further on, is less happy. He says, with an amusing naïveté:—

"The qualities of flowers which recommend them most to poetical minds are their forms, colours, and perfumes. Poems innumerable have been suggested by these qualities, but rarely a line has referred to the much more important

stamens and pistils which carry on the work of reproduction!"

Well, there are two or three very good answers to this. In the first place poetry is not science, and it naturally deals with the poetical and not the scientific side of any subject. In the second place, as this very book abundantly shows, the "forms, colours, and perfumes" of flowers, which attract the insects, and so tend to the distribution of the pollen, have a good deal to do with the work of which he speaks. And lastly, as a mere matter of fact, there is at least one long poem in the English language—old Dr. Darwin's 'Botanic Garden,' with its 'Loves of the Plants'—which goes very minutely, almost, perhaps, too much so, into all the mysteries of stamens and pistils. And if Dr. Taylor is not satisfied with this, let us refer him to a chapter called 'Sponsalia,' in an edifying Latin poem by Petit-Radel.

As we hope this book may come, for it deserves it, to another edition, we may as well point out one or two blemishes, which may easily be removed. There has been some carelessness in giving the same passage twice over, as about the cause of "hay-fever" at p. 17 and again at p. 156, and about the attraction of "fly-cages" for insects at p. 15 and p. 174.

The illustrations are singularly uneven, and the coloured ones, which have nothing to do with the text, and are obviously taken from some other book, are, we suppose, inserted on the principle "of the attraction which bright colours have for even non-flower-loving insects." This explanation, if not complimentary, may perhaps be held to be sufficient; but how can we explain an uncoloured engraving of the common wood anemone, with "Wood Sorrel" underneath it?

There is one small matter on which we feel inclined to differ from Dr. Taylor, although he can fortify himself with the high authority of Sir John Lubbock. Sir John Lubbock thinks that veins in flowers are "honey-guides" for insects, and says they are absent in night-opening flowers. Dr. Taylor, repeating this, says, "Night-opening flowers never possess veins, for they would not be visible to moths in the dark." This is all very well, and probably may hold true of some night-opening flowers; but let Dr. Taylor take the large white blossoms of the *Enothera taraxacifolia* and he will find veins scarcely less marked than those on the Grass of Parnassus.

Let us add that a glossary of botanical words, like that which Sir John Lubbock gives in his little book, would be equally useful here.

Stanford's Compendium of Geography and Travel. Based on Hellwald's 'Die Erde und ihre Völker,' Central America, the West Indies, and South America. By H. W. Bates. (Stanford.)

THE revision and extension of the volume in Mr. Stanford's 'Compendium of Geography' which deals with Central and South America, could not have been placed in more competent hands than those of Mr. H. W. Bates, the accomplished author of that charming record of travel, 'The Naturalist on the Amazon.' The English editor has in not a few instances improved upon the German original, and all he says about the Fauna and Flora of the countries under consideration may be accepted unhesitatingly as coming from a savant who has made these questions a subject of special study and personal inquiry. At the same time the meritorious distinctive features of Herr von Hellwald's original have been retained,

and the reader is afforded an insight into the social and political condition of Spanish and Portuguese America such as cannot be obtained from ordinary text-books. Mr. A. H. Keane's notes on the ethnography and philology of America are comprehensive and popular, and exhibit evidence of no inconsiderable amount of research. This 'Compendium' fills up a gap in English geographical literature, and we wish it a wide circulation, more especially amongst teachers of geography.

L'Afrique Centrale et la Conférence Géographique de Bruxelles. Par Émile de Laveleye. (Brussels.) In the body of this little work the author sets forth in a clear style the principal geographical features of Central Africa; he dwells upon the great commercial resources of the regions recently laid open by Cameron and Stanley, and earnestly pleads the cause of the International Association recently founded at Brussels. He trusts that "all the nations of Europe will join heartily in this holy crusade against barbarism and the slave trade, in spite of the rivalries of their governments, who just now threaten to plunge them into war." We regret not being able to share in M. de Laveleye's sanguine views as to the results to be achieved by the agencies proposed to be brought into play. No doubt geographical science, and commerce too, may profit largely, but measures of a more heroic nature must be taken in order to "civilize" Africa. Rivalries unfortunately do exist between nations, and no scheme can be expected to ensure success unless it takes account of them. Translations of Mr. H. M. Stanley's letters to the *Daily Telegraph* and a report on recent Egyptian explorations are given in an appendix. We take this opportunity to state that the receipts of the Brussels Committee amount to 17,482/-, including only 1,400/- from abroad, and that Lieut. Wauthiers has replaced MM. Crespel and Maes, Lieut. Cambier retaining the command of the expedition.

SYRIAN TOPOGRAPHY.

THE magnificent series of bronze bas-reliefs obtained by Mr. Hormuzd Rassam from Ballawat are proving of the greatest assistance in the identification of sites mentioned in the inscriptions as the scenes of battles or other important events in the reign of the great king. An examination of the few plates now sufficiently cleaned to enable us to trace the beautiful workmanship shows very clearly that there can be no doubt whatever that these plates were made by the worker in bronze from sketches taken by artists accompanying the royal army in its march. This huge trophy from the temple of Nergal and Venus Victrix at Ballawat was, there is little doubt, a large and finely-executed war panorama, giving every detail of the royal progress; but it is extremely valuable in furnishing two sketches of two most interesting spots in North-eastern Syria through which the royal warrior passed in his great Syrian campaign of B.C. 885.

For more than two centuries the Assyrians had been shut out from the sea, and Assur-nazir-pal having vanquished all surrounding nations—chief among whom were the Hittites and tribes of the region of Carchemish—determined to carry his arms to the shores of the great sea.

Marching through Carchemish, Sangara, the king of that city, paid him tribute, and rendered homage to the King of Assyria. The few sculptures and the monolith seen by Mr. George Smith at Serabolus, the site of Carchemish, all show how very strong was Assyrian influence at the court of Carchemish in and about the ninth century before the Christian era. The style of the monument, the panel with arched head in which the figure of the king has been placed, the sumptuous care bestowed upon the robes and hair of the figure, and the attitude in which it is placed,—all show the influence of Assyrian style upon the Hittite sculptors. Leaving Carchemish, the Assyrian army crossed the plain of North-eastern Syria, and at last penetrated into the ranges of Lebanon. His inscriptions found at Kalakh inform us that

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the army was marched along the side of the range of Lebanon, and at last came face to face with the great sea of the West.

The king records in his inscriptions that he erected here on the shore of the sea an "image of his royalty," and in the bas-reliefs illustrative of the Syrian campaign of this king we have a representation of the events and ceremonies which took place on the erection of this statue at the mouth of the Nahr-el-Kelb or Lycus river. Notwithstanding the conventionalism of the work, which, however, is very slight compared with that exhibited in the stone slabs, it is easy to see how very accurate the artist has been in the reproduction of the scene. In the matter of the representation of the great sea the artist has indulged very freely in the wonders of the deep, but still the position in which the statue is represented, the open space on the beach, agrees most truly with the present topography of the mouth of the Nahr-el-Kelb. Above this scene is a short inscription—reading, an "image over against the great sea I caused to be fixed." Drawings and descriptions of the Assyrian (6) and Egyptian (3) tablets erected on these rocks will be found in the works of Lepsius and de Sauley, and a cast of the one erected by Esarhaddon on his return from the Egyptian campaign against Tirhakah will be seen in the British Museum.

Interesting and important as is this sketch of the site of so many great events as the sea gate of Mesopotamia has been, the bronze plates obtained by Mr. Rassam fortunately furnish us with one of far greater interest.

After the ceremonies at Bahal-Rapi, the Assyrian or Phoenician name of the mouth of the Nahr-el-Kelb, were completed, the king marched his army into the fastnesses of Lebanon for the purpose of cutting cedar wood with which to decorate the temples and palaces which he intended to erect at Kalakh. In the plates obtained by Mr. Rassam we have represented the Assyrian soldier carrying away the logs of wood. The king records in his inscriptions that while in the Lebanon he sacrificed to the gods, but he gives no details of the ceremonies which took place. Fortunately, however, the artist who accompanied the host obtained, and the metal-worker reproduced and perpetuated, a sketch of the ceremonies which took place in a secluded glen in the Lebanon, which from the details so accurately given in the plate we must certainly identify as the glen of Apacha.

In the lower tier we have represented a scene which took place a short distance from the glen, near the head of the valley. In the right-hand portion of the plate we see three caverns cut in the rock, half filled with water, in which some men, apparently pilgrims, are bathing. The water from these caverns flows down over a waterfall near the edge of a cliff.

On the face of this rock a soldier and a scribe are engaged in cutting the inscription on a memorial tablet and statue of the great king similar to the one erected at the mouth of the Nahr-el-Kelb. Behind this pair two soldiers approach, leading a ram and a bull for a sacrifice with which to dedicate the image; above the whole is inscribed, "Victims I offered and image of my royalty I caused to be fixed." So exactly does this plate agree with the description given by Robinson of the falls and caverns in the glen of Afka in Lebanon that we must certainly conclude that we here have a representation of the site as it appeared in B.C. 885. The caverns and falls seem to Robinson to be partially of artificial construction, and there can be little doubt from the figures represented bathing in them, who hold in their hand buds of the lily or lotus, that they were pools in which the devotees of Istar or Ashtaroth purified themselves. The glen proper runs south-east from these falls and is bisected by a stream of running water. In the upper tier of the bronze obtained by Mr. Rassam there is given a very accurate sketch of the glen and temple with certain religious ceremonies being performed there.

On the further side of the glen, as represented in the bas-relief, we see the temple placed on the

slope of the hill, and standing on a platform built so as to obtain a level space.

In the open space before the temple a priest, evidently, from his effeminate appearance, one of the servants of the temple of Ashtaroth, is engaged in conversation with an Assyrian scribe. The priest is standing beside four conical stones, which are evidently Ectyli or emblems of Istar. The king, attended by a eunuch, approaches the group, while in the extreme left of the plate we see represented three soldiers and an officer slaying a bull for sacrifice.

The conical stones which were the emblems of the Syrian and Phoenician Venus were also the emblems of the Assyrian Istar, and there is so much affinity between the rites celebrated in the temples of Kammuri or Love in Nineveh, Kalakh, and Babylon, and those recorded as taking place in the glen of Apacha, that there can be very little doubt that we have here a representation of this secluded spot as seen by the Assyrian artist twenty-seven centuries ago.

There are among the other plates of this valuable monument a large number of cities and places in all parts of Western Asia, pictures which will be of the greatest service in the elucidation of Assyrian topography in the ninth century before the Christian era. The discovery of this representation of the temple of Venus at Apacha shows very clearly that there was a long line of temples dedicated to the Queen of Love extending from Babylon through Assur, Kalakh, Nineveh, Carchemish, Apacha, and Byblos on to Cyprus and Greece. The temple discovered by Mr. Rassam at Nimroud was dedicated to this goddess, and the temples of Istar were the oldest of the Assyrian sacred edifices.

W. ST. CHAD BOSCAWEN.

DR. R. WILLIS.

THE death is announced of Dr. Robert Willis, whose Life of Servetus we lately reviewed. Dr. Willis was born in 1799, and took the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Edinburgh in 1819; he became a M.R.C.S. in 1823, and L.R.C.P. in 1837; but some years before the latter date he was appointed Librarian of the College of Surgeons, and soon acquired a reputation for learning and unwaried industry. He found, however, as many others have found, that it is hard to make a living by literature, and in 1845 he resigned his librarianship and betook himself to the practice of his profession. This, however, did not in the least diminish his love of study, and at the time of his death he had just prepared for the press a Life of Harvey. The list of his works is long, and many of his publications were on subjects connected with his profession. Of his more purely literary productions we may mention the translation of the works of his favourite, Harvey, which he made for the Sydenham Society, and a version of "Nathan the Wise," with an excellent Preface. Dr. Willis had a partiality for being the biographer of heretics, and published lives both of Spinoza and Servetus. The latter, an especially interesting book, appeared about a year ago, and was an excellent specimen of the writer's patient research and extreme impartiality. Both it and the Life of Spinoza attracted attention on the Continent, and the news of Dr. Willis's death will be received with regret in Holland and Germany as well as in this country.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

MR. HEPWORTH DIXON, who has just left England for the East, will two or three weeks hence commence a series of letters from Cyprus and Syria in the Glasgow *North British Daily Mail*. The letters will deal with the connexion established between this country and Cyprus, as well as the scenery, character of the inhabitants, &c., in the countries visited.

The Russian Hydrographic Department at St. Petersburg has recently issued a valuable monograph on the hydrography of the Caspian Sea, a copy of which we have received from Messrs. Dulau & Co. It is illustrated by a series of charts showing the soundings taken in various

parts of that sea, the sea face of the mouths of the Volga and the south-east corner of the Caspian being apparently the most carefully surveyed. These charts are nicely and clearly got up, and it is a great pity that their value should be marred by the unscientific system which apparently prevails in Russian nautical surveying. What is known as "sectional sounding" is conspicuous by its absence: a line of soundings is run here or there in a sort of haphazard fashion, and then another line is carried quite independently by another vessel, say at right angles to the former line. No attempt appears to be made to connect the two pieces of work, and an examination of some of the charts will show soundings of astonishing difference juxtaposed in an erratic fashion. The result gives a remarkable picture of the sea-bottom, which, at the best, can be regarded as only approximately true. At the same time, some of the more closely surveyed parts along the coast are doubtless both trustworthy and useful for purposes of navigation. The contour lines of equal depth show that there are two deep depressions in the Caspian, one in the northern half and the other in the southern, and both nearer to the western than to the eastern shore. The sea has been said to be receding from the latter—a physical fact of considerable interest and importance to the Russian settlements at the south-east corner of the sea, but one which cannot be proved without periodical series of soundings. The present work is supplemented by three charts of the magnetic dip, variation, and intensity as observed at numerous points along the coast and on the islands of the Caspian.

At the present juncture of affairs it is worth while noting what the existing southern boundary line to the Russian possessions in Central Asia is as drawn on their own maps. The most recent map issued by the Turkestan Topographical Department makes no change in the frontier line north of what is often (for want of a better name) called Kashgaria. From the meridian of Kuldja the line follows pretty closely the waterparting of the Tian-Shan mountains, as far as the Suok Pass. But here, instead of following the Alai range, which has been hitherto considered to be the southern limit of Ferghana, it turns almost directly southward, and, taking in the Great Kara-Kul lake, advanced to a point only 150 miles distant, as the crow flies, from the nearest point of Kashmir territory! This, it may be observed, *en passant*, is rather different from the 450 miles usually assumed to separate the two empires. After running with a generally westward direction for about fifty miles, the boundary turns and rejoins the originally accepted frontier about the meridian of Khokand. But the manner in which it leaps across streams and waterpartings in order to do this is suggestive of further "symmetrical rectifications" in a southerly direction. From the last-mentioned point it runs westward, just as shown on the last edition of Col. Walker's map of Turkestan, but only for a distance of about sixty miles, and then breaks off, in a manner as suspicious as it is abrupt, for a gap of very nearly one hundred miles. It then follows the old frontier line up to the Oxus. The above map contains a great deal of new information about the Pamir, Karategin, and Hissar countries, which English cartographers will do well to take note of. Col. Prejevalsky's new work is nearly ready, "From Kuja across Tian-shan to Lob-nor," translated by Mr. E. Delmar Morgan, with notes and introduction by Sir Douglas Forsyth. Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. publish it.

SOCIETIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Sept. 4.—F. Smith, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. D. Price was elected a Member, and Capt. T. Broun a Subscriber.—Mr. Rutherford exhibited two specimens of an orthopterous insect, *Palophus Centaurus*, West, from Old Calabar.—Mr. F. Smith exhibited a specimen of the fruit of the so-called locust tree (*Hymenaea courbaril*), from British Guiana, forwarded to Dr. Sharp from Mr.

Harper. The fruit, on being opened, had been found to contain three living specimens of a weevil (*Cryptorhynchus stigma*, Linn.), a cocoon containing the chrysalis of a moth, together with the remains of one or more such cocoons, and lastly a small parasitic hymenopteran (an ichneumon allied to Chelonus). Mr. Smith also exhibited a specimen of *Melolontha vulgaris*, which had lately been found alive under earth at the bottom of a box in which the larva had been placed last April, thus making it appear probable that the insect assumes its perfect state underground a long time before making its actual appearance.—Mr. Champion exhibited a series of *Spercheus emarginatus*, taken at West Ham, Essex.—Mr. J. Spiller exhibited some so-called "jumping-seeds," received from Mexico, and contributed remarks thereon.—The Secretary exhibited a photograph of a fossil butterfly, *Prodryas Persephone*, Scudd., received from Mr. Scudder. The insect represented was in an excellent state of preservation, and had been found in the tertiary formation of Colorado.—Mr. Smith stated that, having recently had occasion to refer to the Linnean Collection in the apartments of the Linnean Society, he regretted to find it had been allowed to fall into a state of complete neglect.—Mr. Swinton communicated a paper "On the Vocal and Instrumental Music of Insects."—Mr. Waterhouse read a paper entitled "Notice on a small Collection of Coleoptera from Jamaica, with descriptions of New Species from the West Indies."

Science Gossip.

MESSRS. LONGMANS promise the following scientific works: "Economics for Beginners," by Mr. H. D. Macleod, M.A.; "Notes on Physiology," by Mr. H. Ashby; "The Art of Scientific Discovery," by Dr. G. Gore, LL.D. F.R.S.; Natural Science Reading-Books, suited to the requirements of the Education Act, by Mr. C. W. Merrifield, F.R.S.; "A Treatise on Coal, Mine-Gases, and Ventilation," by Mr. J. W. Thomas, F.C.S.; "Animal Chemistry," by Mr. Charles T. Kingzett, F.C.S.; "On Artificial Manures, their Chemical Selection and Scientific Applications to Agriculture," by Georges Ville, translated by Mr. Crookes. Of the series called "London Science Class-Books," "Hydrostatics and Pneumatics," by Mr. Philip Magnus; "Geometry, Congruent Figures," and "Geometry, Similar Figures," by Prof. O. Henrici; and "Molecular Physics and Sound," by Prof. Guthrie, are promised. The firm also announce "Food and Home Cookery," and "Town and Window Gardening," by Catherine M. Buckton.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. will publish during the next few months the following scientific works: A translation of Gegenbaur's "Text-Book of Comparative Anatomy," revised, and with a Preface by Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S.; Part I. of the second volume of "A Treatise on Chemistry," by Profs. Roscoe and Schorlemmer; the fifth and concluding volume of "A System of Medicine," edited by J. Russell Reynolds, M.D., F.R.S.; the third and concluding volume of "The Theory of Sound," by Lord Rayleigh F.R.S.; "An Elementary Treatise on Heat," by Prof. P. G. Tait, F.R.S.; a "Treatise on Coal, its History and its Uses," by the Professors of the Yorkshire College of Science, Leeds; the second volume of "Science Lectures at South Kensington"; the "Journal of a Tour in Morocco," by Sir Joseph Hooker, C.B. F.R.S., and John Ball, F.R.S.; and a new volume of the "Nature Series," "A Series of Simple, Entertaining, and Inexpensive Experiments in the Phenomena of Sound," by Alfred M. Mayer, Professor of Physics in the Stevens Institute of Technology.

MESSRS. W. H. ALLEN & CO. have the following scientific works in preparation: "Carral and Culvert Tables," by Mr. L. D. Jackson; "Pocket Logarithms, to Four Places of Decimals, of Numbers, Lines, and Tangents," with an Appendix of Miscellaneous Tables, arranged by Mr. L. D. Jackson; and "Coal-Mine Inspection, its History and Results," by Mr. R. Nelson Boyd, F.R.S.

ANOTHER small planet was discovered on the night of the 22nd inst., raising the known number of those bodies to 190. The discoverer on this occasion was Prof. Watson, of the Ann Arbor Observatory, Michigan, U.S.

The new edition of Dixon's "Geology of Sussex," which is published by subscription, the number printed being limited to 250 copies, is now in course of delivery to the subscribers. It forms a thick quarto volume containing numerous illustrations, and is edited by Prof. T. Rupert Jones, of Sandhurst College. Mr. W. J. Smith, of Brighton, is the publisher.

It is announced that a second session of the International Congress of Ethnographical Science, which met under the patronage of the French Government in July last, at the Trocadéro, will be held on the 10th of October next at the Palace of the Tuilleries. This session is to be held in order that those who were unable to attend in Paris in July last may now have an opportunity of being present at the approaching meeting. In the course of a few days a programme will be published of the questions to which special attention is to be called. The committee of the Ethnographical Society of Paris, which is organizing the Congress, is especially desirous that England should be well represented on the occasion.

We are glad to see that the merits of the remarkable collection of platinum and the allied metals, exhibited by Messrs. Johnson, Matthey & Co. at the Paris Exhibition, has been recognized by the award of grand prizes by two juries. This is the more gratifying as evidence of the foremost position maintained by this country in these more purely scientific branches of metallurgy.

On the 11th inst. the fifty-first session of the Congress of German Naturalists was convened at Cassel, Privy Councillor Dr. Stilling occupying the chair. There are twenty-six sections, representing nearly every branch of science. The principal paper was one by Prof. Oscar Schmidt, of Strasbourg, "On the Relations of Darwinism with Social Democracy," this being an answer to a discussion which arose at Munich last year. It was then urged that owing to the active propagation of the principles of socialism the doctrine of Darwinism, if sufficiently developed, would manifest many undesirable features. Prof. Schmidt desired that it might be possible to propagate the whole truth of the Darwinian doctrine of development among the masses as a safeguard against the pernicious reasonings of socialistic philosophers. "A Review of the History of Scientific Progress" was given by Dr. Stilling, which is said to have been a masterly effort.

SIR RICHARD JOHN GRIFFITH, Bart., died in Dublin on the 22nd inst., in the ninety-fourth year of his age. We defer our notice of his life and works until next week. The death of Mr. Penn, the well-known engineer, is also announced.

FINE ARTS

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS. "THE BRAZEN SERPENT." "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM." "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM" (the latter just completed), each 5½ by 22 feet, with "Dream of Pilate's Wife," "Sisters of the Cross," "Night of the Crucifixion," "House of Caiphas," &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—*Six.*

THE PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF ENGLAND.

No. XXXVIII. THORNTON-LE-STREET HALL, THIRSK.

EARL CATHCART, to whom we are indebted for permission to see his collection of paintings and drawings, and for information respecting them courteously imparted, possesses heirlooms of both family and historical interest, as well as pictures of importance in the roll of English art, especially an early Reynolds, a fine Gainsborough, a Romney of the first rank, Ibbetsons, Cuitts, Edrides, an unusually excellent F. Cotes, and less interesting examples; likewise a superb Claude, a noble cabinet Salvator, a good Solimene, a beautiful Veronese "Virgin and Child," probably by Girolamo dai Libri. The works which

struck us most are the last-named one, the Claude, and the Romney—the English picture, perhaps, most of all. There are some charming miniatures at Thornton-le-Street, together with a valuable collection of prints by Hogarth, formed by the present owner, who possesses Hogarth's receipt for a set of prints of "Marriage à la Mode," i.e., the etching known as "Characters and Caricaturas." The first payment for this series was half a guinea; by means of the receipt Hogarth undertook to deliver the prints "when finish'd on Recieving half a guinea more." "Characters and Caricaturas" is said to contain more than one hundred heads in profile, admirable satires. The print, as is the case with all Hogarth's etched receipts for subscriptions to his more important publications, comprises an impression in red wax from the artist's signet, bearing a prettily executed palette, with portions of pigments on the surface, and a sheaf of brushes stuck in the thumb-hole. Among these etched receipts are "The Laughing Audience," which was used for "Southwark Fair" and "A Rake's Progress" severally; "Boys peeping at Nature," used for "A Harlot's Progress" and "Strolling Actresses"; "A Chorus of Singers," used for "A Midnight Modern Conversation"; "A Stand of Arms" served for "The March to Finchley." Having answered their designer's purpose as receipts, the engraved forms of words were cut from the designs, and the etchings published independently, without the seals. It might be asked what has become of the signet of Hogarth, one of the most interesting personal relics we have heard of.

In chronological order first comes the Italian painting we have associated with the name of Girolamo dai Libri (1474—1556), an artist who is well represented by a charming picture in the National Gallery, No. 748, a valuable representative of a transitional period in art, with a distinct backward look to times that were past with the painter. The training of a miniaturist and the sweetness of his Virgin's faces, the gaiety of his colour, here shows in finer harmony than common, the careful draperies, the neat and somewhat prim outlines, which became his early models, and the beauty of a cheerful background, are all characteristics of Girolamo's art, and are present here. This picture probably represents a rather late period of his practice, for it has a Venetian, somewhat Bellinesque quality which is very agreeable indeed. The subject is "The Virgin and Child"; he is seated, she has book in her hand; her expression is suave, not of a serious character, but very tender and ingenuous. The colouration comprises distinct yellow, red, green, and blue of a luminous and rich nature, with vivid and pure illumination.

We turn now to the Claude, which is a delightful full masterpiece in its way, and represented in the "Liber Veritatis" as No. 1, and styled therein "View near the Campo Vaccino, looking towards the Palatine Hills," with three columns and their entablature, as of the Temple of Jupiter Stator, on our right, the Temple of Concord (?) on our left; there are trees and figures likewise. The whole is a lovely composition; the sunlight effect is intense, but marked, as is often the case with Claude's sunlights, by great solemnity of feeling. The shadows, which are now rather dark, have profound depth of tone and unusual force; the light is broad and has also darkened; the art of the chiaroscuro is a little obvious, and so too is the grouping of the columns with the foliage. Few Clauses of the middle size and executed late in the painter's life better reward examination than this one; it is impossible to rise after studying it without a deepened feeling of admiration for the painter's genius, the true poetry of his art, which, so to say, threw a spell over the scene he chose to depict in a mood profoundly in harmony with the history of the place. The picture is obviously no mere portrait of the Campo Vaccino, but it renders in a wonderful way the paths of its history. On the back of the drawing in the "Liber Veritatis" which stands for this example is the following note, in

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Claude's handwriting: "Drawn the 10th day of August, 1677; the picture is still in my possession, August, 1680." Born in 1600, Claude was very old when he made the drawing, and he died two years after the date which here indicates the picture to be still in his hands. The painting betrays the latest manner of the artist, and the picture is said to have been executed for Cardinal Rospiglioso, as was the case with the 'Peasants attacked by Banditti,' which we saw at Mulgrave Castle, see No. XXXVI. of this series of papers; for the same patron Claude produced the famous 'Hercules and Agraulos.' Earl Cathcart's landscape belonged to his ancestor in 1777; a duplicate is said to have been in the possession of Mr. Hickie.

The Salvator Rosa, 'John preaching in the Wilderness,' has a very large proportion of the dignified and yet wild vigour which distinguishes the painter; the romance of the subject, from a seventeenth century point of view, which comprehended much that was terrific and impressive, is here expressed with exceptional simplicity and gravity. On the other hand, the painting is more slovenly and less crisp than ordinary with Rosa; the picture is unusually dark; probably this defect is remediable without much risk. It must be owned that in a vast number of Salvator's works the dark grounds he, for obvious reasons, affected so frequently have "come through," as artists say. In this painting we have rocks on our right, a high brow capped by foliage; a shattered tree is on our left; the effect is that of evening, with shadows gathering in the vista of a gloomy rocky pass, an impressive and suggestive motive; several figures are grouped on the rocks, and are evidently listening to the preacher, who is addressing them from a neighbouring standpoint. It is a picture which, notwithstanding its darkness, has retained a great charm in the breadth, dignity, and simplicity, coupled with a certain severity, of its inspiration.

Near this work hangs a good picture, ascribed, probably with correctness, to Agostino Caracci, the subject being St. Francis kneeling in an ecstasy of prayer: he is looking up; his hands are crossed on his breast, and show the stigmata. His coat is, of course, brown, and there is a cord round the waist. Behind the figure is a beautiful landscape, of that character which so aptly accompanies many pictures by the Caracci and their able followers. The whole, though a thoroughly eclectic and scholastic specimen, marked by the artifice which never fails to accompany examples of the class, is really valuable and truly poetic in its way. It is on copper, like many of Agostino's works, delicately finished, and in excellent condition. By Ludovico Caracci, or Taccioni, is Mary Magdalen kneeling before a crucifix, and wearing the yellow dress which long before the painter's time had been appropriated to her, thus continuing the ancient usage with regard to meretrices, of which probably the latest parallel instance occurs in the Parisian ordinance which restricted to women of that class the wearing of golden or gilt girdles, the *cinture dorée* of Louis XIV.'s time. It is a good picture of its kind: highly finished, or rather stippled to smoothness, hard, and somewhat opaque in the shadows, with drapery delicately modelled in a smooth rather than vigorous manner. Like the last it is painted on copper. By F. Solimena is a Holy Family; the figures are seated by sunflowers in a landscape; it is a first-rate example of a painter who does not enjoy the reputation he deserves. Probably he produced too many pictures to be a master, and there is a repellent sameness, not to say a tame ness, about most of them; yet he painted with an ability rare in his day, and sometimes produced works of exceptional merit: of these this is one. A cabinet picture on copper by Le Brun has an interest of its own, and here is one attributed to him which fairly represents the painter in most respects. The subject is Mademoiselle Lavallière casting away her jewels. The design, if our memory does not betray us, has been engraved by some illustrious hand. She is seated, and very

like a French Magdalen, in ample blue robes. The picture is delicately finished, hard and smooth, and the design has, of course, the affectation of the period to which it belongs. This appears in exaggerated pathos, rather than in untruth of conception. We have never before seen a cabinet picture by Le Brun so smooth as this one; but this fact does not lead us to question the authenticity of the example itself, which bears many signs of genuineness.

In the Drawing-Room are two pictures by Watteau, or rather, we fancy, by Pater, capital examples of the manner of the latter artist. The one is styled 'Follies of Youth,' and represents men and maidens making love; the subject is treated with a certain superficiality which makes one wonder why the painter adopted a title for his work which suggests a sardonic, if not a satiric purpose. Nothing can be simpler or more obvious than the motive of the design. It is devoid of that inner thought which would have pervaded the mind of one of the German masters who might have chosen to represent his notion of the follies of youth. It is not so exquisitely pretty in treatment, nor so delicately brilliant, nor so splendid in illumination as Watteau would have made it. Watteau, too, would never have allowed himself to look on the innocent pastimes of "youth" as follies in any respect. His works are free from the affectation, as it would have been in his mind, of a sardonic or satiric motive. Pain, an *arrière pensée*, a sad memory, never entered the minds of the demoiselles and cavaliers who revel so gaily and so innocently in the sunlit alleys and green pleasaunces of Watteau's world. His mind was a great deal too sincere, his pathos was too ingenuous for anything of the kind. In this picture four maidens are decorating a *term* with flowers, and they are accompanied by amorini, and the like. Watteau did not affect amorini. The work, whoever painted it, is charming, with dainty, graceful figures in a sunny landscape, and the composition is pretty. The companion picture represents the 'Follies of Age,' an old man with a youth, girls grouped about a *term*, in a different motive from that before referred to. This picture is, as it seems to us, still more like a Pater than the other, and hardly sharp, delicate, and crisp enough for Watteau.

By Van Dyck is a version of the well-known picture of the 'Virgin, Christ, and Angel,' the first with the beautiful face and bright gold-coloured hair. This picture was repeated many times; this instance is a very good one. We noticed by "Hobbema" a capital grey picture of the school of that master, a fine example intrinsically, if not by him. It is rather less black than his works commonly are in their shadows; it is distinguished by a fine, light, clear touch, and, on the whole, recalls Huysman of Mechlin more than Hobbema, whose reputation has been an inducement for picture-dealers to make experiments with Huysman's and one or two other painters' works. Indeed, as a Correspondent showed in these columns some time since, these worthies have often sold the modern landscapes of Michiels for Hobbemas! The subject-matter of the picture is a successful reminiscence of Hobbema. The trees are admirably grouped in a flat country; there is a farm in the middle distance, and high, golden, and creamy-like clouds float in a pure cold blue sky; it is carefully painted, and bright enough for the able painter whose name it bears. A fine Vander Meulen hangs near the last-named landscape. It is a picture of a cavalry skirmish, and almost equal to a Wouwermans in its animated design. There is plenty of incident in the composition, and singular fire in the groups. In front a cavalier has been thrown from a white horse, and lies before his antagonist: the finish of these figures is admirable, and they are better proportioned in their respective parts than is sometimes the case in similar productions of Vander Meulen's. The background and sky have darkened very much, otherwise the painting is in perfect condition.

EXCAVATIONS AT DALE ABBEY.

The Derbyshire Archaeological Society, though of very recent origin, bids fair to be a worthy rival of the best of the old-established county societies. Founded in January last, it already numbers upwards of 250 subscribers. It has promoted two interesting and well-managed excursions, and promises to supply much useful and original information in its first volume of *Transactions*. Within the last fortnight the Society has begun a work of no little interest and importance to ecclesiologists, viz., the excavation of the ground plan of Dale Abbey. This Premonstratensian foundation, permanently established after many vicissitudes about the year 1223, has, perhaps, one of the most interesting histories of any of our English abbeys not of the first rank. A considerable wealth of legendary lore centres round the abbey, and round the hermitage and oratory that preceded it, whilst there are several valuable chartularies yet extant that tell of its definite history—a history which will, we trust, before long be given to the public.

Except some small portions of ancient masonry built into adjacent cottages and outhouses, the grand arch of the east window of the choir is all that has been visible for many years past of the once extensive monastic buildings. The view given by the brothers Buck of Dale Abbey, in the early part of last century, has long told those interested in its history how comparatively recent was the demolition of a great portion of the buildings. Last year Mr. W. H. St. John Hope discovered, in a private Derbyshire library rich in Stukeleyana, a ground plan of the doctor's own drawing, dated September 23rd, 1730, which strikingly corroborated Buck's view. A further search brought to light the fact that Stukeley was then able to describe in some rough MS. notes, not only considerable remains of the church, but "the walls of the cloister, the kitchen, the hall entire, under the cellars, at the end of the hall the abbott's parlour, all the ceilings well wainscoted with oak, . . . and a magnificent gatehouse, just dropping." Anxious to learn how much of this outline might be recovered from the shallow grass-covered mounds and ridges, Mr. Hope suggested to the council of the newly formed county society the expediency of unearthing them. To this suggestion the Society acceded, and the leave of Lord Stanhope, the lord of the manor, being obtained, the work was commenced. Some few days' digging, confined exclusively to the church, of which there was not previously a stone visible except the fine eastern arch, has brought much to light. The walls of the whole of the choir, except certain portions missing on the north side, with a well-moulded plinth, have been exposed. The area of the choir is 84 ft. by 25 ft. 9 in., but this does not include the chapel of our Lady on the south side, and a further chapel, or choir aisle, on the same side, supported by two rows of pillars. Almost the whole of the ribs, as well as the centre boss of the stone groinings, of the roof of the further chapel have been found amongst the rubbish. The massive bases of the four piers supporting the central tower have been uncovered, including several courses of the lower part of the staircase in the north-east angle. These piers show a great diversity of moulding, and are in good preservation for a height of some three feet from the floor level. Most of the church is evidently of early fourteenth century work, but some interesting bases of a previous church of Early English date have come to light, and some of the foundation stones of the larger bases are fragments of incised sepulchral slabs of twelfth century date. The walls of the south transept have been also laid bare, showing that it was unusually shallow, but the line of the monastic buildings, communicating with it by two doors, has not yet been followed up. Amongst the innumerable moulded stones are some fragments of a beautifully worked canopy tomb, also some finely chiselled crockets and other details of Early English work. The "find" of encaustic tiles has been singularly rich, though not many perfect ones have been found

except those of a plain glaze, but there are many hitherto unique patterns, and a large number of interesting heraldic designs. The only digging that has hitherto been made below the floor level was done in the Lady Chapel, near to the south wall, on the 19th inst., when an interment was found, some three feet below the surface, that had been made without any coffin of any description. The larger bones of the skeleton were perfect, and the completely toothless and worn jaws of the skull showed that it pertained to an aged monk. The remains were speedily and reverently recovered. The excavations are under the direction of a competent committee and are apparently being carried on with great care and judgment; the chief credit is due to Mr. Hope, a young but painstaking archaeologist, who is constantly on the spot. The Society are making appeal to their members and the public generally for a special fund for this object, and it has been decided to continue operations this season for three weeks longer, the work being confined to clearing out the whole area of the choir, transepts, and chapels. It is hoped that it will be resumed again in the spring. Perhaps the most interesting discovery yet remains to be noted, viz., the uncovering of the high altar *in situ*. The top slab is missing, but otherwise the carefully built masonry of smoothly hewn stone is almost perfect. It is of unusual dimensions, and its position is also noteworthy. It is 12 ft. long, and 3 ft. 6 in. wide, and stands away 3 ft. from the east wall, and 6 ft. 10 in. from the side walls of the choir.

Fine-Art Gossip.

TO-DAY (Saturday) a petition lies for signature in front of the National Gallery praying that this institution may no longer be closed, as is still the custom, from the 30th instant till the 2nd of November next. The closing of a place of so great interest as the National Gallery is to the world at large needs some strong justification, and yet the practice has been maintained since the opening of the gallery now many years ago. The only excuse given is that it is necessary to exclude the public while the large pictures are removed from the walls, and their backs are dusted. But surely it is not needful to close the whole gallery at once for this purpose; one room, or groups of rooms, as the communications dictate, might be closed at a time, and the world meanwhile be admitted to the rest of the galleries. The present practice is the cause of immeasurable disappointment to visitors, who, naturally enough, cannot understand why they should be shut out during so long a period, if at all, and from the whole of the collection, when it cannot be possible to dust all the pictures at once. The Government, during a recent debate, was understood to promise a better arrangement for the future of the National Gallery, but this year nothing has come of it,—the place will be closed as usual, but we heartily trust for the last time.

SIGNOR CAVALCASELLE has, by a piece of the greatest good fortune, discovered the long-lost portrait of Cardinal Bembo, by Titian. It was found in the dépôt of the Naples Museum.

THE important picture by G. David, bequeathed to the nation by the late Mr. White, "of Brownlow Street," has been, with two other Low Country paintings acquired some time since, placed in the National Gallery. We described the most important addition at length about two months ago.

AN Artist comments on our remarks on the cracked state of the Duke of Leeds's Hogarth, the famous work known as "The Beggars' Opera," described in the *Athenæum*, No. 2655, p. 343, col. 3. The "Artist" declares that the pictures of the "Marriage à la Mode," now in the National Gallery, Hogarth's masterpieces, and particularly that one which is known as "The Death of the Earl," have greatly deteriorated of late years, especially from cracks on the surfaces, which have affected them seriously. Our Correspondent asserts that no such cracks as he now discovers on these

paintings existed before they were deposited at South Kensington, where they were subjected to a desiccating process, or at least to what, elsewhere than at South Kensington, would be a desiccating process, by being placed immediately over the pipes which heat the galleries. Our readers may remember that complaints were made and alarm was felt about the British pictures which were similarly placed at Kensington, and that commission, including, if we do not err, Dr. Percy and other men of science, reported that no need for alarm existed. We are not sure that this comforting assurance applied to the Hogarts: it is, however, one in which our "Artist" seems to place no perfect reliance, being, he avers, "contrary to the evidence of my own eyes, the suggestions of common sense, and opposed to my professional experience of forty years, that paintings can be placed with impunity over pipes of hot air." Mr. Burton will doubtless see to this matter, and prevent further mischief, if anything of the kind has happened to the Hogarts. We know that when that artist parted with these works he expressly stipulated that if the owner should fancy they needed repairs he (Hogarth), and he alone, should be allowed to touch them. This was much more than a hundred years ago. We remember the pictures in a perfect and unchanged condition thirty years ago, and have examined them from time to time since that date, but not quite lately. Mr. Redgrave, while in charge of the pictures at South Kensington, caused photographs to be taken from those works for which he was responsible; but as the Hogarts were not, we believe, among these, it is probable that they were not photographed. This operation secured a record for appeal in case cracks were observed on the pictures. Not many years ago Wilkie's "Blind Fiddler" and "Village Festival" were found to be much cracked, and, if our memory does not deceive us, these paintings were repaired; an "Artist" says cracks are again visible on them.

In the year 1849 the Kilkenny Archaeological Society started into existence, under the auspices of the Rev. James Graves. Before long, extending its operations into the shires of Carlow, Wexford, Waterford, and Cork, it became entitled to prefix "South-East of Ireland" to its proceedings. In 1868 the Prince of Wales became its patron-in-chief, and as no district of Ireland was excluded from its operations, its name was changed to "The Historical and Archaeological Association of Ireland." At the close of the following year the power to elect Fellows as well as Members was granted, and the word "Royal" was, by the Queen's permission, joined to the existing designation. About to enter upon its thirtieth year, the Association enjoys a vigorous maturity. But, while it has been growing in strength, the lamented death, in 1875, of Mr. John G. A. Prim brought double toil to his fellow secretary, the Rev. James Graves, whose health gave way under the pressure. Although much restored, Mr. Graves feels unequal to the resumption of editorial duty, and the time has arrived, it is felt, for a change in the management and, inferentially, in the place of meeting of the Association. Although founded at Kilkenny, the Association belongs not to that city exclusively, but to Ireland. There is no prohibition, either in its rules or constitution, of the Fellows and Members assembling in a new locality, and therefore, at the regular quarterly period, Wednesday next, a general meeting is summoned at the Royal Institution, Cork, when it will be proposed that his Grace the Duke of Leinster be elected President in the room of the late Very Rev. Dear Vignoles; that Dr. R. Caulfield, F.S.A., already Honorary General Secretary of the Association and assistant editor, be appointed editor of the Society's *Journal*; and that the periodical meetings be held in the city of Cork, where the *Journal* will be henceforth edited.

THE Musée des Arts Décoratifs (Exposition Rétrospective), now open in the Pavillon de Flore, Tuilleries, will remain open until the end of October.

ACCORDING to the *Allgemeine Zeitung* several objects of value have disappeared from the galleries of Florence. The whole of the servants have been suspended, and a Commissioner sent by the Italian Government to inquire into the state of matters.

THE authorities of the Department of the Seine-Inférieure have determined to effect a restoration of the house of Corneille, Petit Couronne, near Rouen, and much has been done towards carrying this decision into effect. Failing remains of the chamber used as a work-room by Pierre and Thomas Corneille, which has been described as having existed above the large gate of the building, a conjectural restoration is favoured; many important parts of the structure exist, and are capable of restoration; it is proposed to found a collection of relics of the poet in the house.

THE sixth and penultimate part of the magnificent publication, "Keramic Art of Japan," has been sent to us by Messrs. Sotheby & Co. It contains the end of the previously begun essay on Japanese Art; pages of the Introductory Essay on the same subject; on the Tse Section and the Kaga Section, with chromo-lithographic and other plates; and descriptions of the illustrations. The plates are exquisite specimens, especially admirable among which are Plate XXXV., vases of modern Kioto ware, and Plate XX., two *koros* of Satsuma work. We reserve detailed notice of this work till its completion.

MUSIC

Musical Gossip.

THE Saturday afternoon orchestral concerts at the Crystal Palace will be resumed next Saturday, October 5th, with Mr. A. Manns as permanent conductor; the Symphony in D, Op. 73, No. 2, by Herr Brahms, will be executed here for the first time. A pianist from the Brussels Conservatoire, M. Louis Brassin, a professor of note, will make his first appearance in England, and play Beethoven's Concerto in E flat, and Dr. Liszt's Fantasia on Hungarian melodies. The American vocalist, Miss Thursby, will also be heard for the first time at Sydenham. As regards novelties, the works specified in the prospectus for the following four concerts are a Pianoforte Concerto, No. 3, in A flat, by John Field, to be played by Madame Arabella Goddard; the "Carnaval de Vénise" Overture, by M. Ambroise Thomas; Mr. W. Macfarren's overture, "Pastorale"; Herr Wagner's "Walküren Ritt" ("Walküre"), the second opera of the trilogy, the "Nibelungen"); Signor Verdi's Requiem; a Marche Religieuse, by M. Gounod; and a MS. Symphony in F minor, for string orchestra, by Mendelssohn, at the Commemoration Concert, on the 2nd of November. The promised pianists, besides the artists specified above, are Miss Zimmerman and Mdlle. Janotta; the vocalists will be in turn Mrs. Davison, Mdlle. Sartori, Miss Anna Williams, Mr. B. M'Guckin, and Herr Henschel. There will be eleven concerts before Christmas, and fourteen in the new year, up to the 10th of May. Berlioz's symphony, "Harold en Italie," will be introduced during November; and more than ordinary care is promised for the revival of Beethoven's Choral Symphony on the 14th of December.

WALLACE'S "Maritana," with Madame Rose Hersee in the title-part, is announced for performance at the Alexandra Palace this evening (Sept. 28th).

ORGAN recitals will be heard in the east at the Bow and Bromley Institute every Saturday evening, in the south at the Angell Town Institution, also on the Saturday nights, and in the west every Monday afternoon at the Royal Albert Hall.

THE works to be given during the season 1878-9 at the Brixton Choral Society under the direction of Mr. W. Lemare will be Handel's "Judas Maccabeus," Haydn's First Mass, Mr. J. F. Barnett's cantata "Paradise and the Peri," and Signor Randegger's "Fridolin."

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XUM

A CHILDREN'S Hymn-Book, specially adapted to the seasons and services of the Church of England, has been for some time in preparation, and will shortly be published. Besides well-known compositions, it will contain new hymns and tunes. Mrs. Carey Brock is the acting editor. The final revision has been undertaken by Bishop Oxenden, the Rev. J. Ellerton, and Canon Walsham How. The Committee of Hymns Ancient and Modern have, it is said, relinquished in favour of this work a similar scheme which they had in contemplation.

THE announcement that M. Rivière intends to produce the Choral Symphony, No. 9, by Beethoven, has apparently prompted Messrs. A. and S. Gatti to include this work in their benefit concert next Monday, which will terminate their series of Promenade Concerts. Next Saturday M. Rivière will commence his series of orchestral performances at Covent Garden Theatre, combined with choral selections. Madame Lemmens and Signor Campobello will be the leading solo singers.

MESDAMES ROSE HERSEE AND ENRIQUEZ, Mr. B. M'Guckin, and Signor Federici, were the vocalists at the two evening concerts at Leeds on the 20th and 21st inst., at the reopening of the Victoria Hall. Mr. J. K. Pyne of Manchester Cathedral was the organist, Dr. Spark the conductor.

MR. CARL ROSA's English opera company have been playing this week at the Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool, and Mr. Pyatt's concert tour commenced in the same town this week, with Madame Nilsson, Miss Orridge, Messrs. Sims Reeves and Sankey.

Two mishaps signalized the Eisteddfod at Birkenhead; first the absence of Mr. Sims Reeves, who was unable to appear owing to a cold, and secondly the break-down of the floor of the cloak-room, by which twenty ladies were more or less injured. Some years since at the Rhuddlan Castle Eisteddfod the orchestral platform gave way; no lives were lost, but some persons were severely hurt by the fall. Madame E. Wynne, Madame Patey, and Signor Foli sang at Birkenhead. The competitions and the new works by Welsh musicians require no detailed notice. As usual at these festivals, the awards of the adjudicators subjected them to rude attacks from the defeated competitors for prize. The next Eisteddfod is to be at Holywell (Flint).

SIR ROBERT STEWART, the Professor of Music at Trinity College, Dublin, has been giving organ recitals at the Town Hall, Manchester.

THE fourth and last of the Classical Quartet Concerts in the Langham Hall given by the London Conservatoire of Music—a very high-sounding title to be given to a private speculation—took place on the 23rd inst., the instrumentalists being Messrs. Cooper, Halfpenny, Lawrence, and Heer Boumann, and the vocalists Madlle. E. Petrelli and Miss A. Turner Burnett, with Mr. L. Cottell conductor.

THE list of works and the names of the artists engaged for the Norwich Musical Festival next month were given in last week's *Athenæum* in our first page. The only novelties specified in the detailed prospectus are a part song, entitled 'Autumn Song,' by Mr. Burnett, Mus. Doc., the organist; a recitative and air for soprano, "I come from lands afar," by Mr. J. A. Harcourt, the chorus-master, and a new overture by Sir Julius Benedict.

THE operas in English to be given at Drury Lane Theatre will be confined to the Saturday afternoons. The first performance will take place on the 5th of October; but Mr. F. Chatterton is not the impresario; his musical director and conductor, Herr Karl Meyer, is the speculator. The German setting by the late Hermann Goetz of Shakspeare's 'Taming of the Shrew' has been adapted for the English stage, and will be the opening opera at Drury Lane. Mr. Chatterton, however, will produce M. Lecocq's operetta, 'Angela; or, a Woman's Wit,' as a *lever de rideau* this evening (September 28th) to the 'Winter's Tale.'

UNDER the presidency of M. Bardoux, the French Minister of Fine Arts, the first meeting at the Trocadéro Palace of the Congrès International de la Propriété Artistique was held on the 18th inst., when speeches were delivered by the Minister, M. Meissonier (President of the Committee of Organization), Baron Taylor (President of the Association of Dramatic Authors), and M. Adrien Huard (Vice-President of the Society of Inventors and Industrial Artists). A working Executive Committee was appointed, of which M. Meissonier is President, and MM. E. Abut, Jules Thomas (sculptor), and Gounod are Vice-Presidents; the foreign element being represented in the list by M. Nicolas Rubinstein (Russia), M. E. Romberg (Belgium), Don José E. de Santos (Spain), Herr Steffek (Germany), Señor Torres Caicedo (Central America), and Signor Sonzogno (Italy). England has no representative. The resolutions of the Committee as to music and musicians will be made known after the daily meetings this week at the Trocadéro and at the Tuilleries (Pavillon de Flore). The most remarkable oration was that of Baron Taylor, who, after reminding his hearers that half a century since he was member of the first committee appointed by the French Government to establish proprietary rights in the works of genius of mankind, also referred to Beaumarchais, who in the last century created the Society of Dramatic Authors, for France, added the Baron, had always taken the initiative in this order of ideas, as in all others. He also called to mind Jean Jacques Rousseau, who, after the production of 'Le Devin du Village,' asked for free entry to the theatre, but could only obtain a place in the *paradis* (gallery) in that same opera-house where all the master-minds of musical art, including Rossini, had Frenchified themselves. We must not be too hard on the Welsh for their tone of glorification at an Eisteddfod after this Parisian discourse, which was cheered to the very echo.

THE Russian Italian opera season was commenced on the 23rd inst. In the prospectus the ordinary *répertoire* of works by Mozart, Meyerbeer, Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Auber, Signor Verdi, M. Gounod, and M. Ambroise Thomas is specified; but there are operas not so familiar in Russia, namely the 'Guarany' of Señor Gomez, the 'Vendetta Catalana,' Herr Wagner's 'Tannhäuser,' and Donizetti's 'Poliuto.'

No one acquainted with the tardiness of the managers of the Paris theatres in producing new works will be surprised to learn that the Marquis d'Ivry's 'Amants de Véronne' and M. Gounod's 'Polyeucte' are not likely to be brought out before the first or second week of the next month, but amateurs desirous of being present on the first nights of either work had better be in Paris on or before the 5th of October.

THE German adaptation of Glinka's Russian opera, 'The Life for the Czar,' has been written by Herr Richard Pohl for the opera-house at Hanover, where it will be produced under the direction of Dr. Von Bülow, who is also preparing Berlioz's opera, 'Benvenuto Cellini,' a German version of which was first given at Weimar by Dr. Liszt.

A CORRESPONDENT writes that the Tewkesbury tombstone which terms the Hart family "descendants of Shakespeare" is incorrect, inasmuch as they were only the poet's "collateral relatives," being descendants of the father of the bard.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

FOLLY.—'The Idol,' "an entirely New and Original Comedy," in Three Acts. Adapted from the French of Meilhac and Halévy by Mr. Charles Wyndham.—'Stars and Garters,' a Burlesque Extravaganza, in Three Tableaux. Founded on 'L'Etoile,' by R. Reece and H. B. Farrie.

OLYMPIC.—Revival of 'The Two Orphans.'

MOST threadbare among subjects of satire is the theme MM. Meilhac and Halévy chose for their comedy of 'La Veuve,' produced four years ago with indifferent success at the

Gymnase. From the earliest days feminine inconstancy has been ridiculed by every scribe who has striven to win reputation as a narrator or a wit. A story corresponding to the famous legend of the matron of Ephesus is said to form a portion of the literary heritage of every civilized race, and some races that are not civilized. The world meanwhile had to wait the arrival of Shakspeare before it heard a statement not less accurate concerning man, that

The fraud of men was ever so,
Since summer first was leafy.

So much of the success of a work depends upon what the mind of the workman brings to it, society has rightly ceased to occupy itself much with questions of originality. If, then, we draw attention to the singularly old-fashioned nature of the satire in 'La Veuve,' it is with no idea of challenging the wisdom of the authors. The reception, however, accorded in England to 'The Idol,' which is an almost literal version of the French piece, justifies a doubt whether the subject is, for dramatic purposes, all that could be desired. In the case of satire as of other things, the strong application that is forced home by a dramatic representation tells with an effect that may well, in some cases, prove damaging. By common accord governments, from the most despotic to the most advanced, have seen that the expression of political views upon the stage was too dangerous to be permitted. In the wildest throes of Revolutionary France absolute freedom of speech was only accorded to be withdrawn. From the added vivacity of interpretation it comes that the oldest and most conventional satire in the world proved too much for an English audience, and provoked manifestations of discontent.

The story of 'The Idol' shows a woman mourning for her husband and refusing to be comforted. Her friends strive to win her back to the world, and an ardent and impassioned lover waits to take advantage of any moment of relenting and supplant an old love with a new. That he succeeds is due less to his own persistency than to the discovery by the wife that her husband, during the last year of his life, had been wasting his substance upon a mistress. This story, ridiculously slight to form the basis of a three-act comedy, is treated in wittiest and most cynical style by the French authors, and is supplied with a comic embroidery that almost succeeds in covering up its threadbare fabric. Each separate scene elicits a laugh, while the whole incurs condemnation. It is absurd to suppose that the question of morality could have anything to do with the verdict passed, seeing that, compared with the pieces that now form the staple of English comedy, 'The Idol' is innocence itself. It could not be dullness, for the play was never dull. The grievance consisted in the way in which conventional assumptions were satirized. Heartless derision was lavished on conjugal fidelity, and the direction "bury your dead out of my sight" was counselled with emphasis and haste felt to be indecent. In saying this we are taking the standpoint of the public, not our own. In our judgment, the piece, though possibly a little unfeeling, is pardonable, and might well pass muster in times like the present. A comedy of Mr. W. S. Gilbert supplies ten times the amount of satire against

what is most respectable in our nature. As regards the subject itself, it has, of course, a serious as well as a comic side. There are few who, feeling the sense of loss departing from them, and the enjoyment of life reasserting its empire, have not felt inclined to cry,—

Let Love clasp Grief, lest both be drowned.

It is yet known that were it not, as Mr. Swinburne complains, that

We are not sure of sorrow,

life would grow impossible, and the races of men would subside. Still grief over losses by death and discontent with its want of endurance have no such special sanctity as should put them outside the province of the humourist.

The piece, we have said, met with an unfavourable reception. We cannot, nevertheless, resist the belief that with some slight modification of the dialogue it will become a success. It is adequately acted, one character, that of the heroine, being presented with something more than intelligence by Miss Eastlake. Mr. H. Paulton, in a small part, displayed some genuine comedy acting, which contrasted pleasantly with the exaggeration into which he has sometimes been betrayed. Mr. Brough and Mr. Bishop gave distinct physiognomies to two eccentric characters.

In announcing as "new and original" a piece which in the same breath he declares to be adapted from the French, Mr. Wyndham goes a step beyond Mr. Tom Taylor, who would assign to a production of this class the first adjective only. It is difficult to conjecture what meaning will be left to words when "original" and "adapted" are allowed to be applied in the same sentence to the same work.

With the burlesque of 'Stars and Garters' we are not called upon to deal, seeing that, apart from the fact that this class of composition, which burlesques nothing and means nothing, is wholly outside criticism, the piece was stillborn. It is worth while remarking, however, a fact which "points a moral." Mr. Bishop appears in a dress which caricatures admirably a popular and versatile statesman. A complete storm of applause greeted his appearance. So far, then, there was a triumph for the actor. If he had had anything to do or say that would have kept up the illusion, the character might, perhaps, have saved the play. As after his first appearance he had only to take his share in the inanities distributed among the characters generally the interest in him subsided, and in the end the clever disguise he had donned proved an embarrassment and a disadvantage to him. No blame, of course, attaches to the exponent, who could not make bricks without straw.

The revival of 'The Two Orphans' is marred by the superfluous energy displayed in such characters as Jaques, played by Mr. William Rignold, and La Frochard, resumed by Mrs. Huntley. Miss Williams (Marianne) and Miss Coote (Florette) are not free from the same fault. Thus, though Mr. Neville acts with his old force as Pierre, Miss Marion Terry shows unsurpassable grace and tenderness as the blind girl, and Mr. Macklin is a good Armand, the general performance conveys an idea of noise and tumult.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—C. R. L.—E. M. J.—E. E. G.—R. F. M.—M. H. J.—received.

E. E. G.—We cannot undertake to answer such questions.

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SPIRITUAL SCIENCE.

By KUKLOS.

(Notice published September 27th, 1878.)

Mr. Harris desires to call the attention of readers of the above treatise to the following very important corrections. In doing so, whilst it is probable there may yet be further errors (of less consequence) in the book, Mr. Harris would remark that these errors, although greatly important, do not essentially alter nor even modify the general significance and meaning of the interpretation as set forth in the treatise. To have eliminated such errors in the first instance would have necessitated considerable delay in the publication of information which is believed by him to be of very much immediate value to the public.

(N.B. The words in italics denote the spiritual significance of the Names as typically used in the Bible.)

Abraham.—*Belief arising from religious aspiration in the human mind.*

* Isaac.—*Satisfaction in alleged fact.* Or, perhaps preferably, *indolent satisfaction in apparent fact.*

Jacob.—*Active investigation of belief.*

Esau.—(Religious) *Sensualism (i.e., Reliance on the natural senses).*

+ Canaan.—*The birth-place of Natural Christianity.*

* ISAAC.—The primary signification given in the treatise (for Isaac), viz., *Self-Sacrifice*, is certainly erroneous; but the secondary meaning, "*Naturalized Christianity*," holds good. The superior significance of the primary meaning now given will be readily apparent throughout. For example: at the close of the interview between Jacob and Laban (*Human labour employed in elaborating artificial Christianity*) on Mount Gil-ead (*Learned idea about God*), Jacob "swears by the fear of his father Isaac," whose *satisfaction in the alleged facts* of Laban's artificial Christianity would be imperilled, and perhaps destroyed, by (Jacob's) *active investigation* of his belief therein.

+ CANAAN.—(The place of the birth of Natural Christianity.)—That domain in the human mind which is at first occupied by the Canaanites, i.e. by the un-disciplined *intellectual appetites*—precursors of spiritual religion in the religiously disposed and subsequently Christianized human mind. As, for example:—

Agag, King of the Amalekites.—*Gratification of gross appetite: King of the (intellectual) animal passions.*

Og, King of Bashan.—*Egoism: King of human boastfulness.*

Sihon, King of the Amorites.—*Intellectual Self-honour: King of the untutored loves; i.e. of the intellectual passions characteristically allied to love.*

Inhabitants of Gibeon.—*Minds having no real belief in God.* Or, preferably, *Convictions not based on a distinct belief in God.*

But these primitive intellectual inhabitants of the spiritually unchristianized human mind are dispossessed and driven out by the Children of Israel; namely, by those religious convictions and Christianized affections which are the offspring of (Israel) the learner by spiritual instruction.

Note.—It is explained in the treatise that the patriarchs and others of whose lives the most important events are recorded in the Bible, whilst they apparently acted according to their own will and judgment, each enacted, under the operation of Divine power and guidance, a rôle typically prefiguring the progressive development of God's terrestrial kingdom; and also, psychologically, the progress of spiritual education in the religious human mind.

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